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STARS AND STRIPES®



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Senator calls readiness of B-1 bombers into question

BY SETH TUPPER

The Rapid City (S.D.) Journal

WASHINGTON — Just six of the nation's B-1 bombers are fully mission capable, according to U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds.

Rounds, a Republican representing South Dakota, made the statement July 30 during a Senate Armed Services Committee confirmation hearing for Gen. John Hyten, who is nominated for vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Much of the hearing focused on a sexual assault allegation against Hyten that he denies. The committee advanced his nomination to the full Senate.

When it was Rounds' turn to ask questions at the hearing, he focused on military readiness.

'Right now, of all of our B-1 bombers, we have six of them that are fully mission capable.'

SEN. MIKE ROUNDS

"Right now, of all of our B-1 bombers, we have six of them that are fully mission capable — five split between Ellsworth Air Force Base and Dyess Air Force Base. One is a test aircraft," Rounds said.

Ellsworth is near Rapid City, and Dyess is in Texas. Both are home bases for B-1s. The bombers, which date to the 1980s, can reach speeds beyond 900 mph, carry a payload of 75,000 pounds and tote 24 cruise missiles.

Rounds went on to say that "15 B-1s are in 'depot,' and the remaining 39 of 44 B-1s at Ellsworth and at Dyess are down for a variety of discrepancies and inspections."

'Trust is paramount'

SOCOM chief orders review of military's special operations culture

BY COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The top general in charge of U.S. commando forces has ordered a review of the culture and ethics within Special Operations Command after a series of high-profile incidents in recent years have tarnished the military's most elite units.

Army Gen. Richard Clarke, the SOCOM commander, ordered the comprehensive review in a memorandum sent last week to his entire force. The review was to start immediately and conclude by the fall, he wrote.



Clarke

"This is about making us better," Clarke wrote in the memo, which was first reported by NBC News. "The American people must trust those who protect them, including the special operations professionals in this command," he wrote.

"This trust is paramount and must never be compromised.... Recent incidents have called our culture and ethics into question and threaten the

trust placed in us."

Clarke wrote all units within the command would be visited by top leaders and encouraged special operators to be "open and candid" with them.

Clarke's review comes on the heels of an ethics and culture review ordered late last month by the Navy's top SEAL officer, Rear Adm. Collin Green, the chief of the Naval Special Warfare Command, launched the inquiry into the conduct of his organization following a string of recent incidents within the SEALs, including accusations of war crimes, charges of illicit drug use, drinking on duty in the Middle East, sexual

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Green Berets transport a simulated casualty during Medical Evacuation training in July at Fort Bragg, N.C.

PETER SEIDLER/U.S. Army

SEE READINESS ON PAGE 5

MILITARY

Pentagon opens probe into cloud contract

By TONY CAPACCIO
Bloomberg

The Pentagon's inspector general is "expeditiously" conducting an extensive review of the Defense Department's JEDI cloud-computing project, including potential conflicts of interest and misconduct in the competition that may generate as much as \$10 billion in revenue.

"We are reviewing the DoD's handling of the JEDI cloud acquisition, including the development of requirements and the request for proposal process," spokeswoman Dwrena Allen said in a statement Tuesday, offering the first details of the previously announced review requested by lawmakers.

The watchdog office's inquiry began before President Donald Trump endorsed criticism by rivals that the pending contract award favors Amazon.com, the leading cloud services provider. New Defense Secretary Mark Esper has initiated his own review of the project.

"A multidisciplinary team" of auditors, investigators and attorneys is investigating JEDI matters "referred to us by members of Congress and through the DoD Hotline," Allen said. "In addition, we are investigating whether current or former DoD officials committed misconduct relating to the JEDI acquisition, such as whether any had any conflicts of interest related to their involvement in the acquisition process."

Allen said the review "is ongoing and our team is making substantial progress. We recognize the importance and time sensitive nature of the issues, and we intend to complete our review as expeditiously as possible."

The inspector general intends to write a report and notify Esper, Defense De-

partment leaders and Congress under standard protocols, she said. "We will also consider publicly releasing the results, consistent with our standard procedures," she said.

Dana Deasy, the Pentagon's chief information officer, told reporters Friday that if Esper's review is complete before the inspector general issues findings "we would obviously have a conversation with the IG" to assesses if there's "reason to pause" in advance of making a contract award for the Joint Enterprise Defense Infrastructure program, or JEDI.

The contract was originally going to be awarded as soon as late August.

The Defense Department previously determined that allegations of unethical conduct didn't taint the acquisition process but it referred possible instances of unethical conduct to the inspector general.

Trump stunned tech companies, the Defense Department and lawmakers when he openly questioned whether the pending contract is being competitively bid. "I'm getting tremendous complaints about the contract with the Pentagon and with Amazon," he told reporters last month. Trump has often attacked Amazon founder Jeff Bezos, who also owns the Washington Post. Microsoft is the only other bidder that hasn't been eliminated.

Oracle has spearheaded the campaign against the contract, but a federal claims court judge last month rejected its contention that the project was fatally tainted by revolving-door conflicts of interest involving people who worked at times for the Pentagon and Amazon or that the acquisition strategy was improper.

Green Berets assigned to 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) train July 18 at Fort Bragg N.C. A review of the military's special operations culture has been ordered.

PETER SEIDLER
US ARMY



Review: Memo came after reports of SEAL team being sent home from Iraq

FROM FRONT PAGE

assault and the involvement of two SEALs in the murder of a Green Beret.

The letter came immediately following reports of a Navy SEAL team being suddenly sent home in July to San Diego from Iraq over accusations of drinking alcohol during an Independence Day celebration, during which an alleged sexual assault on a female servicemember working with the team occurred.

That incident came just weeks after the acquittal of Chief Petty Officer Edward Gallagher on charges of war crimes, including murder in the 2017 killing of a wounded Islamic State captive. During the court-martial, fellow members of SEAL Team 7/testified team members drank and partied during their free time in Iraq.

In the homicide case, one SEAL, Senior Chief Petty Officer Adam Matthews, a former member of the Naval Special Warfare Development Group, or SEAL Team 6, was convicted this year for his role in the 2017 strangling death of Green Beret Staff Sgt. Logan Melgar in Mali.

Another member of the SEALs, Senior Chief Petty Officer Tony DeDolph, faces charges, including murder, in that case. Two

elite Marine Raiders were also implicated in Melgar's death, which has been described as an accidental killing during a hazing event after the elite troops had been out drinking. One of the Marines, Staff Sgt. Kevin Maxwell Jr., was convicted this year for his role in Melgar's death. The second, Gunnery Sgt. Martin Madera-Rodriguez, like DeDolph, still faces charges in the death, including murder. DeDolph and Madera-Rodriguez are expected to face court-martial later this year.

In a separate case, former Green Beret Maj. Matthew Golsteyn faces a court-martial on murder charges for the 2010 death of a local Afghan that he suspected of being a Taliban bomber. Golsteyn has admitted to the killing, but he has pleaded not guilty and claimed the man was a legal target.

Clarke wrote in his memo that special operators face the "most complex environments" of any military forces, but he stated that was not an excuse for misconduct.

"We are the nation's special operations force and we remain intensely focused on accomplishing our mission while upholding the highest standards of ethical conduct — each and every day, as individuals and teams, at home and while in harm's way," he wrote.

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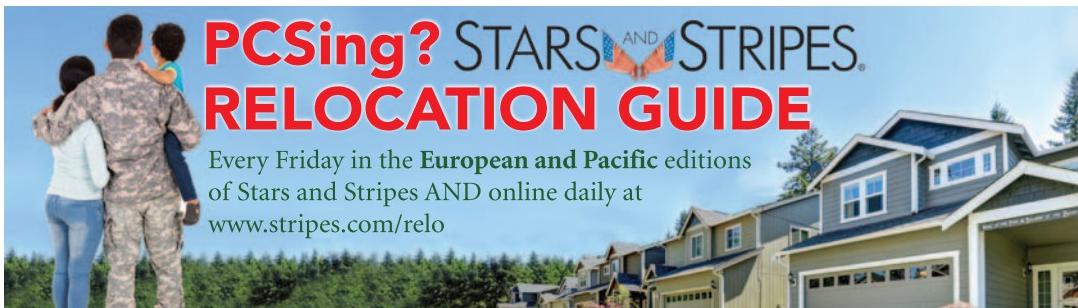
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MILITARY

Marines await charges for alleged smuggling

By CAITLIN M. KENNEY
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — A dozen Marines from 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment have been confined for weeks at Camp Pendleton in California awaiting charges for their alleged involvement in smuggling, the service said Monday.

Pending military charges for the 12 Marines vary for each person. However, most of them are related to human smuggling. Maj. Kendra Motz, a spokeswoman for 1st Marine Division, wrote Monday in an email.

Ten of 16 Marines were arrested July 25 during a battalion formation at Camp Pendleton and they were still detained Monday, according to a statement from the 1st Marine Division. None of the names of the Marines who were arrested July 25 have been released. The remaining six Marines who were questioned or detained had been released and they have returned to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, Motz said in the statement.

The other two Marines from the 1st Battalion — Lance Cpl. Byron Darnell Law II and David Javier Salazar-Quintero — were

arrested July 3 for smuggling three people from Mexico across the border into the United States. They face federal charges in the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of California for transportation of aliens for financial gain and aiding and abetting, according to court documents. Law and Salazar-Quintero are being held by the military, according to Motz. Their next federal court hearing is scheduled for Oct. 28.

During the investigation of Law and Salazar-Quintero, the names of the Marines arrested July 25 were mentioned,

Motz had said.

Additionally, one sailor was also arrested July 25, a spokesman for NCIS said at the time. The sailor has been released back to 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, Motz said.

"Each case and alleged level of participation varies among the individual Marines and sailors. Those details are still under investigation and will not be released at this time," she said.

Stars and Stripes reporter Rose Thayer contributed to this story.
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Propulsion plant work complete on USS Ford

By HUGH LESSIG
The Daily Press

NORFOLK, Va. — Newport News shipbuilders and sailors have fixed problems with the propulsion plant on the aircraft carrier Gerald R. Ford, bringing the ship a step closer to returning to sea.

Work was completed July 22, ending more than a year of maintenance and repairs, according to a Navy news release.

Propulsion system problems first were spotted during sea trials in January 2018. A manufacturing defect was deemed to be the cause.

In May, the crew dealt with another propulsion plant issue "associated with a design modification" and the ship returned to

Naval Station Norfolk, the news release stated.

The ship returned to sea later in May. After successfully completing all required at-sea tests, the Navy and Newport News Shipbuilding determined how to correct the manufacturing defects during post-shakedown work at the shipyard.

The Ford entered the yard last year and remains there now.

The propulsion problems weren't with the nuclear reactors, but with other mechanical components. It took 400,000 employee-hours of maintenance and production to complete the work, the Navy said.

Crew members who work in the Ford's reactor department are already shifting their focus to preventive maintenance, said Lt.



Ryan Seelbach/U.S. Navy

The USS Gerald R. Ford is maneuvered by tugboats in the James River in Virginia during the aircraft carrier's turn ship evolution in March.

Cmdr. Deron Spencer, the ship's reactor maintenance officer.

The first-in-class ship is packed with new technology, which has caused delays and cost overruns throughout its development and

construction. Ford joined the fleet in 2017, but more work remains before it is ready for combat.

Navy leaders say they're making progress with two key systems: the catapults and arresting

gear that allow aircraft to launch and land on the flight deck.

Work continues on the advanced weapons elevators, which transport ordnance up from the lower decks.

Marine killed in Iraq was once the Corps' top commando

By COREY DICKSTEIN
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Marine killed in action Saturday in northern Iraq alongside Iraqi forces was a father of two who last year was named the Marine Raider's top commando.

Gunnery Sgt. Scott A. Koppenhafer was killed during operations against Islamic State in the expansive Nineveh province, where efforts are ongoing to clear the remnants of the terrorist group, Pentagon officials said Sunday.

Koppenhafer, 35, was the first combat death of an American servicemember in Iraq since October 2017, but defense officials said Monday that the Pentagon was probing the possibility that he was killed by friendly fire.

The Defense Department initially announced Koppenhafer was killed by "enemy small arms fire," however two defense officials said the investigation was examining the possibility that he had been accidentally struck by Iraqi or American fire. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity. The Wall Street Journal first reported the possibility of a friendly fire incident.

Koppenhafer spent the last decade serving in the elite Marine Corps Raiders Operations Command after he completed the grueling Marine Raider training in 2009.

According to the Corps, He was a veteran of three combat deployments as a Raider, serving as a commando in Iraq and Afghanistan. At the time of his death, Koppenhafer was assigned to the 2nd Marine Raider Battalion at Camp Lejeune in North Carolina.

On Facebook, family members described Koppenhafer as coming from a large, close-knit family in southwestern Colorado. He was the son of a veterinarian and a stand-out high school wrestler who continued the sport in college.

Thad Koppenhafer, who described himself as the Marine's cousin, wrote in a public post that the fallen servicemember was "a great man." He added he was "very heart broken at this news!"

Koppenhafer enlisted in the Marine Corps in 2005 after graduating from Colorado's Adams State University with a degree in business marketing. He served as a machine gunner and then a scout sniper with 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and deployed twice before entering Raider training, according to his Marine biography.

Last year, MARSOC named him its crit-

ical skills operator of the year, at least in part for his role leading a Raider team as the unit worked hand-in-hand with elite Iraqi troops battling ISIS during grueling combat in northern Iraq in 2017, according to an award citation. It stated Koppenhafer "masterfully orchestrated" operations that would lead to the defeat of ISIS in areas of northern Iraq.

Koppenhafer was the recipient of at least three valor awards. He received two Bronze Stars, including one with combat "V" device for valor. He was also awarded two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals with combat "V" device for valor, according to his biography. His other awards included two Combat Action Ribbons and six Sea Service Deployment Ribbons.

He left behind a wife and two children, according to the Corps.

He was a 2001 graduate of Mancos High School in his hometown of the same name where he played football and wrestled. Colorado state wrestling records indicate Koppenhafer was a standout wrestler, placing among the state's top wrestlers in each of his four years.

Koppenhafer continued wrestling at Adams State, according to university records and news reports.

The fallen Marines' high school wrestling coach described him as an excellent student and a driven athlete.

"He is an awesome leader and a hard worker at practice," then-Mancos High coach Travis Bryant told the local Cortez Journal newspaper in 2001 announcing Koppenhafer's decision to wrestle at Adams State. "He has great values and morals."

Koppenhafer is the 14th American servicemember killed in action in Iraq or Syria during combat operations under the umbrella of Operation Inherent Resolve, the mission to defeat ISIS in Iraq and Syria launched in 2014.

While ISIS has been declared defeated in Iraq and Syria, where its so-called caliphate once stretched across an area the size of the United Kingdom, the group has retained an underground presence in both countries.

A Pentagon report this month by the lead inspector general for Operation Inherent Resolve warned of a recent ISIS resurgence as the group seeks to launch an insurgency in Syria and Iraq.

The United States has retained some 5,200 troops in Iraq, most of whom work from bases where they train Iraqi soldiers and police forces. However, some U.S. special operators continue to accompany Iraqi forces as they target ISIS cells throughout the country, one of the defense officials said Monday.

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MILITARY

Soldiers vaccinated after signs of mumps in Italy

By NANCY MONTGOMERY
Stars and Stripes

VICENZA, Italy — Army medical staff vaccinated about 200 soldiers against mumps after several paratroopers in Italy showed symptoms of the virus and one tested positive for it in Germany.

The response was done out of "an abundance of caution," said Maj. Chris Bradley, a 173rd Airborne Brigade spokesman. "We wanted to make sure that nobody was spreading it."

Bradley said that over the past month or so, about 10 brigade soldiers sought care at the garrison health clinic after feeling sick and developing symptoms that could indicate mumps.

Their lab tests were negative or inconclusive, including a soldier deemed a "probable" case. But false negative results are common and do not "rule out mumps as a diagnosis," according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website.

All the soldiers who showed symptoms

at the Vicenza clinic were prevented from traveling to Germany for training with the brigade and were isolated for five days, as recommended by medical protocols to contain the virus.

There is no treatment for mumps other than supportive care.

One soldier felt fine and did not seek medical attention until after arriving in Grafenwoehr. He was diagnosed with mumps on Aug. 5; test results two days later confirmed he had the virus.

By Friday, all those who had been in close contact with soldiers with suspected or confirmed cases had been vaccinated or revaccinated, Bradley said.

The CDC says children should get two doses of the MMR vaccine, which immunizes against measles, mumps and rubella. Servicemembers who cannot provide proof of vaccination are given a single booster of MMR, according to the Defense Health Agency.

After the U.S. began giving the two-dose MMR vaccine in 1989, the number of cases

of mumps declined from more than 186,000 to just a few hundred a year.

But several military studies have suggested that because the mumps component of the MMR vaccine is the least effective and tends to wane the fastest, immunity could fall below levels that protect communities, leading to outbreaks.

In recent years, mumps cases have been on the rise in the U.S., according to the CDC.

The agency reported 150 outbreaks involving more than 9,000 cases from 2016 through 2017. From January to July this year, nearly 1,800 cases of have been reported in the U.S., the CDC said.

Some of the recent outbreaks occurred in military units. The crew of USS Fort McHenry was essentially quarantined at sea with no port calls for four months earlier this year after 28 of the 703 people on board came down with mumps.

Before the vaccine was licensed in 1967, mumps was known to frequently affect armies during mobilization, according to

the CDC. In World War I, hospitalization rates for mumps were exceeded only by the rates for influenza and gonorrhea.

Why outbreaks have been on the rise in recent years in highly vaccinated populations such as the military isn't entirely clear. Researchers have suggested that the immune response provoked by the mumps vaccine may weaken significantly over time.

A person vaccinated twice against mumps is about nine times less likely to get the illness than an unvaccinated person exposed to the virus, the CDC said. If infected, vaccinated people are also likely to have a less severe illness than an unvaccinated person.

Mumps is usually a mild disease of about two weeks' duration, causing fatigue, fever and painful, swollen salivary glands resulting in puffy cheeks and jaws. But it can also cause swelling of the testes, ovaries and pancreas, and, in rare cases, complications such as hearing loss.

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IG report: Afghans lack airdrop, airstrike training

By PHILLIP WALTER WELLMAN
Stars and Stripes

KABUL, Afghanistan — Afghan forces trained by U.S. and coalition advisers aren't capable of coordinating airdrops and may not receive adequate training to prevent them from killing civilians and friendly forces during airstrikes, a Defense Department report said.

Afghan forces were supposed to be able to coordinate daytime airdrops with three army corps simultaneously by January this year, a DOD Inspector General report released Monday said.

Airdrops are important for delivering critical supplies to Afghan units operating in areas without airfields or helicopter landing zones, many of which are in rural regions the Taliban contest.

But NATO advisers decided not to train the Afghans on coordinating airdrops, although airdrop training was in the curriculum, the report said.

Officials at NATO's Resolute Support mission in Kabul were unable to comment Tuesday on why the training wasn't provided. But in a response included in the report, the alliance said it would teach airdrop coordination to Afghan tactical air controllers in the future.

Meanwhile, NATO's Train Advise Assist Command-Air, tasked with building Afghanistan's air force, was also criticized in the report for not having a detailed training curriculum for the air liaison officers

who help plan airstrikes.

It warned that an ad hoc program of instruction "increases the risk that graduate air liaison officers are not fully or consistently trained on target development, fratricide avoidance and civilian casualty mitigation procedures."

TAAC-Air collected data on Afghan airstrikes but didn't share it with advisers, which prevented them from evaluating the strikes, the report said.

TAAC-Air was not immediately available for comment Tuesday.

The findings were announced just weeks after the United Nations said pro-government forces were to blame for more civilian war deaths in Afghanistan than insurgents were for the second successive quarter, largely due to airstrikes. Attacks from the air on ground targets were the leading cause of civilian deaths throughout the first half of the year, the U.N. said.

The Afghan air force remains far from self-sufficient, despite roughly \$8 billion invested by the U.S. alone to develop and strengthen the service.

The U.S. and the Taliban have been in cease-fire negotiations periodically for months, with the expectation that the number of foreign forces in Afghanistan will shrink as part of a proposed deal.

The negotiations leave plans to further train Afghanistan's air force unclear, along with other existing security agreements.

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A U.S. Army trainer instructs an Afghan on how to use an ISR system during a live-fire exercise for Afghan Tactical Air Coordinators in 2016. According to a new Defense Department report, U.S. and coalition forces have failed to adequately develop the Afghans' airdrop capabilities.

Marine arrested after punching patrol officer on Okinawa

By MATTHEW M. BURKE
AND AYA ICHIHASHI
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Japanese police arrested a Marine over the weekend on Okinawa for allegedly punching a police officer who was breaking up a fight.

Lance Cpl. Domonic Bulgara, 20, was arrested in an Arahama Beach parking lot in Chatan at 4:18 a.m. Saturday after striking the officer in the left cheek with his right fist, an Okinawa Police spokesman said. He said the patrol officer stopped to break up an argument involving Bulgara and an unspecified number of

people. Officials in Japan often do not identify themselves for the record as a condition of their employment.

The officer was not injured in the altercation, the spokesman said. Bulgara is charged with obstructing police in the performance of official duties. His case has been referred to the Naha Dis-

trict Public Prosecutors Office.

Bulgara reportedly had a blood alcohol content of 0.09%, three times Japan's legal limit for driving of 0.03% when tested after his arrest, The Okinawa Times news paper reported.

Policie could not say where or what unit Bulgara is assigned. A Facebook profile for Domonic

Bulgara, a Marine, states he lives in Iwakuni, home of Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni on the main Japanese island of Honshu. The Facebook profile says Bulgara is from Visalia, Calif.

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MILITARY

Marine panel: Let officer who sent warning serve

BY DAN LAMOTHE
The Washington Post

A Marine who used his personal email account to send a classified warning to his colleagues about a corrupt Afghan police chief should be allowed to continue serving, a board of military officers has determined in the high-profile case.

Maj. Jason Brezler sent the warning in July 2012, about two weeks before a teenage boy working for the chief opened fire on unarmed Marines in a fatal attack on a military base in southern Afghanistan.

Brezler, a Marine reserve officer and member of the New York City Fire Department, reported his action to his commanders after the attack, and they sent him to an administrative board of inquiry to determine whether he should be discharged.

The new determination by a panel of three Marine colonels last week marks the second time that a board of inquiry has reviewed the case. A board of officers found in December 2013 that the Marine Corps should end Brezler's career, prompting him to sue the service and alleging that he was being punished for communicating with a member of Congress, Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., about the incident.

District Judge Joseph Bianco ruled on Brezler's behalf in December 2016, finding that the Navy Department had prevented Brezler from fully litigating his claims of retaliation.

The Marine Corps brought him to another board of inquiry last week, but the results were different this time.

A worksheet detailing the board's findings obtained by The Washington Post shows that the three colonels substantiated a

failure on Brezler's part to "properly discharge the duties expected of an officer of his grade" and obey a regulation that requires classified information to remain on "official premises."

But the panel unanimously declined to substantiate other allegations, including a dereliction of duty, paving the way for Brezler to potentially continue serving.

I am grateful beyond words for the opportunity to once again serve as a United States Marine," Brezler said in a statement provided through his civilian attorney, Michael Bowe. "I love the Marine Corps, am committed to it, my Marines and mission, and can't wait to contribute again."

The findings of a board of inquiry can be rejected by the Navy Department, but they are typically accepted. Marine officials said Monday that they were looking into the results.

The case has become a cause célèbre for a diverse group of advocates including retired Marine Gen. John Kelly, President Donald Trump's former chief of staff, and Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, of New York, a Democratic presidential candidate.

It also has drawn attention to the use of teen boys as "sex slaves" by some senior Afghan leaders.

Brezler was deployed to Afghanistan from 2009 to early 2010 as Marines successfully lobbied the Afghan government to remove an Afghan police chief, Sarwar Jan, from control in Helmand province's Now Zad district because of his suspected ties to the Taliban, according to Marine Corps documents. He resurfaced as the police chief in another district, Garmsir, prompting Marines there to ask Brezler for information about him.

From the United States, Bre-

zler sent the Marines a classified warning about the police chief using his Yahoo email account, and then told military authorities that he had done so. That triggered an investigation in which Brezler first received a negative job evaluation then was ordered to appear before a board of inquiry. Marine officials said they also found classified information on his personal computer that he planned to use to write a book.

Meanwhile, the police chief's servant, Aminuddin Khudaibraham, opened fire at Forward Operating Base Delhi on Aug. 10, 2012, killing Lance Cpl. Gregory Buckley, 21; Staff Sgt. Scott Dickinson, 29, and Cpl. Richard Rivera Jr., 20, and wounding a fourth Marine. The shooter was convicted as a juvenile in July 2014 and sentenced to 7½ years in confinement, the maximum under Afghan law for a minor, Marine officials said.

A Navy Department legal analysis of the case said that a new board of inquiry for Brezler would increase attention on the case "in the aftermath of significant media attention to the allegations regarding the practice of keeping personal sex slaves in Afghanistan." The police chief in the insider attack was accused of using the shooter in such a manner.

The Marine Corps ordered Brezler to appear before another board of inquiry last week in Louisiana at the headquarters of Marine Corps Forces Reserve. Among those testifying were Kelly and retired Lt. Gen. Lawrence Nicholson, who served as Brezler's commanding general in Afghanistan, Bowe said.

It's not clear how the decision could affect Brezler's benefits or rank in the Marine Corps. He potentially could petition for corrections to his service record.



GREG L. DAVIS/U.S. Air Force

B-1 bombers will eventually be phased out by B-21s, which are under development by the U.S. Air Force and Northrop Grumman.

Readiness: Nominee for key Joint Chiefs post 'saw issues in the B-1' due to constant use

FROM FRONT PAGE

spending by 3% to \$738 billion next year.

According to Boeing, B-1s have flown more than 12,000 sorties since 2001 over Syria, Libya, Afghanistan and Iraq. The entire B-1 fleet was temporarily grounded in June 2018 and again in March of this year because of ejection-seat problems.

B-1s will eventually be phased out by B-21 bombers, which are under development by the Air Force and Northrop Grumman and are planned to be sent first to Ellsworth, beginning sometime in the 2020s.



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Blue Origin challenges DOD's plan on satellite launches

BY CHRISTIAN DAVENPORT
The Washington Post

Blue Origin, the space venture founded by Amazon CEO Jeff Bezos, on Monday challenged a Pentagon program that would award to just two companies contracts worth hundreds of millions of dollars to fly national security satellites to space.

In a filing with the Government Accountability Office, Blue Origin said that the Air Force "is pursuing a flawed acquisition strategy" that discriminates against new bidders and limits competition. Bezos also owns The Washington Post.

The bid protest is the latest in a string of high-profile fights over the lucrative Pentagon missions. For years, the Defense Department relied on a single company,

United Launch Alliance (ULA), a joint venture of Lockheed Martin and Boeing. Then, in 2014, SpaceX filed a lawsuit, saying it should be allowed to compete. Eventually, it settled with the Air Force and has competed for several missions, driving down the price.

Currently, ULA and SpaceX are the only companies certified to fly national security missions, though last year Blue Origin, Northrop Grumman and ULA won contracts to develop rockets that meet the Pentagon's national security launch requirements.

The Pentagon, however, plans next year to choose only two contractors in the next round of contracts, sparking Blue Origin's protest, an indication that the company fears it won't be among the winners, in part because the Air Force is allowing bidders to report.

Despite the protest, Blue Origin said it submitted a bid for the launch contracts.

For months, Blue Origin has been lobbying members of Congress and the Pentagon to slow down the procurement. The company, which is based outside of

Seattle, has enlisted the support of Rep. Adam Smith, D-Wash., chairman of the Armed Services Committee, who earlier this year wrote a letter to the Air Force saying he was concerned it was moving too fast "in a way that risks undermining the Air Force's goal of maximizing and sustaining fair and open competition."

The Air Force previously has defended its program as fair and vital to national security. The Air Force declined to comment for this story.

Blue Origin isn't the only company challenging the Air Force. Earlier this year, SpaceX filed a protest after it was left out of the initial round of funding the Air Force awarded to help companies develop their rockets. That lawsuit, filed in the Court of Federal Claims, is ongoing.

MILITARY

Kremlin disputes Trump's claims about missiles

BY JAKE RUDNITSKY
AND ILYA ARKHIPOV
Bloomberg

Russia said it's far ahead of the U.S. in developing new nuclear-powered missiles despite a failed test that prompted President Donald Trump to boast of American superiority in the field.

President Vladimir Putin "has repeatedly said that Russian developments in this area surpass the level achieved by other countries," Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters Tuesday on a conference call, in response to a question on Trump's tweet. U.S. officials have said repeatedly in the past year that its military is working on such programs, so Trump's statement offers no new information, he said.

An Aug. 8 blast in Russia's Arkhangelsk region killed five atomic scientists during the test of a missile engine that used "isotope power sources" on an offshore platform in the White Sea. Trump later tweeted that the U.S. "is learning much from the failed missile explosion in Russia" and added that "we have similar, though more advanced, technology," without giving more details.

Trump's comment appeared to confirm speculation in Russian media that the weapon being tested was the SSC-X-9 Skyfall, known in Russia as the Burevestnik. Putin introduced the nuclear-powered cruise missile to the world in a brief animated segment during his state-of-the-nation address last year.

Radiation levels in the port city of Severodvinsk, near the site of the failed test, reached as high as

[President Vladimir Putin] has repeatedly said that Russian developments in this area surpass the level achieved by other countries. †

Dmitry Peskov
Kremlin spokesman

16 times normal immediately following the incident, according to the state meteorological service.

Gamma radiation measured at six of eight testing stations in the city of 180,000 ranged from 4 to 16 times the normal rate of 0.11 microsieverts per hour, with one observation point showing 1.78 microsieverts per hour, Roshydromet said in a statement.

The maximum reported level of radiation would be harmless and on a par with a dental X-ray, according to Jonathan Cobb, a spokesman for the World Nuclear Association.

The radiation levels at the six stations declined steeply within half an hour and were close to normal levels after two and a half hours according to Roshydromet. Severodvinsk is about 25 miles from the offshore platform where the explosion occurred.

The Defense Ministry initially reported two were killed in the accident, which it said involved testing of a liquid-fueled missile engine. The ministry didn't mention the nuclear element.



U.S. Navy illustration

An artist rendering of the Columbia-class ballistic missile submarine. The Navy says welding flaws by a subcontractor are delaying delivery of missile tubes for upgrades on Virginia-class subs. The flaws were similar to those the company acknowledged last year for missile tubes for Columbia-class subs.

Navy sub firepower upgrade delayed by welding flaws

BY TONY CAPACCIO
Bloomberg

testing, the Naval Sea Systems Command said a statement.

"The delay in tube delivery does not equate" to a delay in ship delivery, the Navy said in a statement.

The Virginia Payload Module and its four additional tubes will extend the submarine's hull by at least seven months, according to the service. The delay to fix the problem is a setback for plans to increase the firepower for the next version of the Virginia-class submarine by equipping it with four new large-diameter tubes. Each tube can hold seven Tomahawk cruise missiles, increasing the number of weapons the submarine can carry to 65 from 37 on current vessels, according to the Congressional Research Service.

The Navy is under pressure to increase the number and range of weapons in its submarine fleet to counter the expanding lethality of the Russian and Chinese navies. Bottlenecks like the welding problem add to pressure on the Navy and its contractors as they work to accelerate production of the next Virginia submarines known as Block V — while also starting construction on the new Columbia class in 2021.

The Navy and shipbuilders must "manage staffing demands and other resources across both programs," the U.S. Government Accountability Office said in a May report.

BWX Technologies is under contract to produce and deliver three four tubes to prime contractor General Dynamics Corp., which is building the submarine. BAE Systems is slated to produce the fourth tube for the initial "Virginia Payload Module" and remaining tubes for succeeding Block V submarines.

The previously undisclosed seven-month delay by Lynchburg, Va.-based BWX was due to "sub-standard welding" and "improperly administered"

Ind. Guard leader quits after retaliation alleged

Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The leader of the Indiana National Guard is resigning days after a former contract worker accused him of retaliating against her for reporting his alleged affair with a subordinate.

Gov. Eric Holcomb said Monday that Maj. Gen. Courtney Carr, the Indiana National Guard's adjutant general, submitted his resignation letter Saturday at the governor's "recommendation."

Holcomb says Carr's resignation is effective Friday. The governor said he's thanked Carr, who became the guard's leader in 2015, "for his service to our



state and country."

Carr's resignation comes after Shari McLaughlin filed a civil lawsuit in Marion County Superior Court on Aug. 1 against Carr.

McLaughlin's suit alleges that after she reported Carr's alleged affair with a subordinate, she was retaliated against with false accusations and intimidation. She resigned last year.

WTOP-FM reported Charles

Police: Ky. man arrested outside Pentagon with gun, bourbon had 'liberty business'

Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Va. — Pentagon police say a Kentucky man with a shotgun arrived at the government facility last week and told officers he had driven through the night to attend to "liberty business" there.

WTOP-FM reported Charles

Lawson of Pineville, Ky., was arrested and charged with unlawfully possessing a firearm after previously having been committed to a mental institution.

Court records show Lawson arrived the afternoon of Aug. 6, approached two Pentagon police officers and made incoherent statements. It says police then

questioned Lawson, who disclosed he had weapons in his car. Police searched his car and found a loaded 12-gauge shotgun, an 18-inch machete, shotgun shells and a bottle of Jim Beam bourbon.

Lawson was hospitalized, and a doctor told police that Lawson mentioned he was previously diagnosed with schizophrenia.

NATION

Job seekers flock to chicken plants hit by ICE raids

By JEFF AMY
Associated Press

FOREST, Miss. — Days after immigration agents arrested 680 Latino workers in a massive workplace sting at seven Mississippi chicken processing plants, job seekers flocked to an employment fair Monday in hopes of filling some of those now-empty positions.

Koch Foods, based near Chicago, held the job fair to recruit new workers at one of its Morton plants, after Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents on Wednesday arrested 243 workers suspected of working without legal authorization.

By 10 a.m., a crowd of dozens was on hand, and a steady stream of people came and went. Most were black and spoke with accents from the American South. A few appeared white or Hispanic.

While the raids at seven plants were unprecedented, chicken processing facilities are normally plagued by heavy turnover and ravenously seek employees. Koch spokesman Jim Gilliland said Monday that job fairs are a "frequent occurrence."

"They are part of normal efforts to employ," Gilliland wrote in an email. "In this environment of relative full employment, most businesses are looking for qualified applicants; Koch is no different."

Eddie Nicholson Jr. of Louisville, among Monday's applicants at a state employment service office in Forest, was more succinct: "They hire anybody."

The 25-year-old has worked in chicken plants before and was considering a return, but wanted to see if wages had gone up. Plants in recent years have typically paid \$11 to \$12 an hour, according to labor statistics, but Nicholson said he wants \$15 an hour.

Like Nicholson, many who ap-

plied Monday were chicken plant veterans. They understand the arduous and sometimes dangerous work of slaughtering, butchering and packaging chicken, from hanging up live chickens, to pulling off skin, to cutting with super-sharp knives, to boxing up chicken, much of it done in near-freezing temperatures. The line moves fast and people repeat the same motions over and over.

"It's definitely hard," said Cedric Griffith of Magee, who said he's been working at McDonald's after getting fired from another chicken processor for missing too many days. "You're going to lose a lot of weight."

That draining work, at relatively low wages, leads many people to quit.

So chicken plants are always hiring. Angela Stuesser, an anthropology professor at the University of North Carolina who spent years among labor organizers in Morton and nearby towns, said the desire for cheap, docile labor led poultry firms to begin recruiting Spanish-speakers in the late 1990s.

At first, Stuesser said they were people who could legally work. But they were eventually replaced by Mexicans, Guatemalans and others who often lacked legal working papers. Later, came a wave from Argentina, Uruguay and Peru.

Koch has hundreds of jobs posted for its Morton facilities on a Mississippi state government job board. Only a few dozen other jobs are listed within 10 miles of Morton, many of them at fast food restaurants or dollar stores. The options are a little better in the larger town of Forest, thanks to defense contractor Raytheon and a sawmill. But Tyson, Koch and other chicken plants still dominate the market. Pearl River Foods, a plant raided in the town of Carthage, posted 200 jobs Aug.



MATT ROURKE/AP

ExpressVote XL voting machines are displayed during a June demonstration at the Reading Terminal Market in Philadelphia. As more jurisdictions move to paperless voting machines for the 2020 general election, their ballots become vulnerable to hacking, according to a new study.

Analysis shows 2020 votes still vulnerable to hacking

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — More than one in 10 voters could cast ballots on paperless voting machines in the 2020 general election, according to a new analysis, leaving their ballots more vulnerable to hacking.

A study released by the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU School of Law on Tuesday evaluates the state of the country's election security six months before the New Hampshire primary and concludes that much more needs to be done.

While there has been significant progress by states and the federal government since Russian agents targeted U.S. state election systems ahead of the 2016 presidential election, the analysis notes that many states have not taken all of the steps needed to ensure that doesn't happen again.

The report also notes that about a third of all local election jurisdictions were using voting machines that are at least a decade old, despite recommendations

they be replaced after 10 years. The Associated Press reported last month that many election systems are running on old Windows 7 software that will soon be outdated.

"We should replace antiquated equipment, and paperless equipment in particular, as soon as possible," the report recommends.

The analysis comes as Congress is debating how much federal government help is needed to ensure state election systems are protected. Democrats have put forward legislation to require paper balloting, give more assistance to the states and give them more money to make improvements. But some Republicans, including Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, are wary of too much federal intervention and have said no more funding is needed.

Using voter registration and turnout data, the Brennan Center estimates that as many as 12% of voters, or around 16 million people, will vote on paperless equipment in November 2020.

Security experts have said that paper-based systems provide better security because they create a record that voters can review before casting their ballots and election workers can use them to audit results.

Still, the number represents an improvement from 2016, when 20 percent of voters cast ballots on paperless equipment. In the last presidential election, 14 states used paperless voting machines as the primary polling place equipment in at least some counties and towns. In 2020, the Brennan Center estimates, that number will drop to no more than eight.

The states that could still have some paperless balloting are Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, New Jersey, Mississippi, Texas and Tennessee. Homeland Security officials notified election officials in 21 states in 2017 that their systems had been targeted by Russia. Authorities have since said they believe all states were targeted to varying degrees.

Slight increase to consumer price index suggests rise in inflation

By CHRISTOPHER RUGABER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. consumer prices rose 0.3% in July, pushed higher by more expensive gas, medical care and housing.

The consumer price index increased 1.8% compared with a year earlier, up from 1.6% in June, the Labor Department said Tuesday. Excluding the food and energy categories, core prices moved up 0.3% in July and 2.2% from a year ago.

The figures suggest that inflation is picking up slightly, though it remains modest.

The economy is in its 11th year of growth, unemployment is low, and wages are growing modestly. These are trends that typi-

Many companies are reluctant to charge more in the face of online and global competition.

cally accelerate price gains.

But many companies are reluctant to charge more in the face of online and global competition.

While last month's price gains were modest, they were widespread. Clothing prices increased 0.4%, used car and truck prices moved up 0.9%, and prescription drug costs rose 0.4%. Airline fares jumped

2.3%.

Rents rose 0.3% and are up 3.5% in the past year. Hotel stays have gotten 4.6% more expensive in the past year.

There are some signs higher wages may be having an effect. The cost of housing operations, such as cleaning, landscaping and moving, jumped 5.4% in the past year.

The Federal Reserve maintains a 2% inflation target to avoid the destabilizing effect of deflation, which can pull down prices and wages. It has mostly missed that target since it was established in 2012. Its preferred measure rose just 1.4% percent in June compared with a year earlier. That measure isn't as influenced by rental prices.

Fed Chairman Jerome Powell has cited tame inflation as a key reason the central bank cut short-term interest rates last month. Most economists expect further cuts this year to offset the negative impact of the Trump administration's trade war with China.

Gas prices jumped 2.5% in July, though they have already fallen back and will likely keep doing so since oil prices are declining. The average price for a gallon of gas was \$2.64 Tuesday, down 15 cents from a month earlier.

One restraint on inflation last month was food prices, which were unchanged. Dairy prices fell in July while fruit and vegetable costs rose.

NATION

US makes changes to protections for endangered species

BY ELLEN KNICKMEYER

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration moved on Monday to weaken enforcement of the 45-year-old Endangered Species Act, ordering changes that critics said will speed the loss of animals and plants at a time of record global extinctions.

The action, which expands the administration's rewrite of U.S. environmental laws, is the latest that targets protections, including for water, air and public lands. Two states — California and Massachusetts, frequent foes of President Donald Trump's environmental rollbacks — promised lawsuits to try to block the changes in the law. So did some conservation groups.

Pushing back against the criticism, Interior Secretary David Bernhardt and other administration officials contend the changes improve efficiency of oversight while continuing to protect rare species.

"The best way to uphold the Endangered Species Act is to do everything we can to ensure it remains effective in achieving its ultimate goal — recovery of our

rarest species," he said in a statement. "An effectively administered Act ensures more resources can go where they will do the most good on-the-ground conservation."

Under the enforcement changes, officials for the first time will be able to publicly attach a cost to saving an animal or plant. Blanket protections for creatures newly listed as threatened will be removed. The action also could allow the government to disregard the possible impact of climate change, which conservation groups call a major and growing threat to wildlife.

Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross said the revisions "fit squarely within the president's mandate of easing the regulatory burden on the American public, without sacrificing our species' protection and recovery goals."

The Endangered Species Act is credited with helping save the bald eagle, California condor and scores of other animals and plants from extinction since President Richard Nixon signed it into law in 1973. The act currently protects more than 1,600 species in the United States and its territories.

While the nearly half-century-

old act has been overwhelmingly successful in saving animals and plants that are listed as endangered, battles over some of the listings have been yearslong and legendary. They have pitted northern spotted owls, snail darters and other creatures and their protectors against industries, local opponents and others in court and political fights. Republican lawmakers have pushed for years to change the law itself.

John Barrasso, a Wyoming Republican who leads the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, said Monday's changes in enforcement were "a good start" but he would continue working to change the act.

Previous Trump administration actions have proposed changes to other bedrock environmental laws — the clean water and clean air acts. The efforts include repeal of an Obama-era act meant to fight climate change by getting dirtier-burning coal-fired power plants

out of the country's electrical grid, rolling back tough Obama administration mileage standards for cars and light trucks, and lifting federal protections for millions of miles of waterways and wetlands.

Monday's changes "take a wrecking ball to one of our oldest and most effective environmental laws," the Endangered Species Act," Sen. Tom Udall, a New Mexico Democrat, said in a statement. "As we have seen time and time again, no environmental protection — no matter how effective or popular — is safe from this administration."

One of Monday's changes includes allowing the federal government to raise in the decision-making process the possible economic cost of listing a species. That's even though Congress has stipulated that economic costs not be a factor in deciding whether to protect an animal. The prohibition was meant to ensure that the logging industry, for example, would

not be able to push to block protections for a forest-dwelling animal on economic grounds.

Gary Frazer, an assistant director at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, told reporters that the government would adhere to that stipulation by disclosing the costs to the public without it being a factor for the officials as they consider the protections.

But Brett Hartl, a government affairs director for the Center for Biological Diversity conservation group, contended any such price tag would be inflated, and "an invitation for political interference" in the decision whether to save a species.

A United Nations report warned in May that more than 1 million plants and animals globally face extinction, some within decades, owing to human influence, climate change and other threats. The report called the rate of species loss a record.



BILL SCHAEFER, THE IDAHO STATE JOURNAL/AP

Calif. lawmaker wants court to postpone corruption trial

Associated Press

Hunter

SAN DIEGO — U.S. Republican Rep. Duncan Hunter, who is facing corruption charges, wants his Sept. 10 trial postponed while his attorneys appeal a San Diego judge's refusal to dismiss the case.

Attorneys for the California lawmaker were expected to ask the same federal judge Tuesday to push the trial back to Oct. 29 so the 9th U.S. Circuit

Court of Appeals can rule first on their appeal of his July 8 ruling, according to court documents they filed.

Hunter and his wife were indicted in August of 2018 on charges they used more than \$250,000 in campaign funds for personal expenses ranging from groceries to golf trips and family vacations. Prosecutors have also said Hunter spent campaign money on a string of extramarital affairs.

The Marine combat veteran has

pledged not guilty to all the charges.

Margaret Hunter pleaded guilty this summer to one corruption count and agreed to cooperate with investigators.

Defenses lawyers argued in July before U.S. District Judge Thomas Whelan that the case should be dismissed because prosecutors were politically motivated and got the 42-year-old congressman indicted only months before the 2018 election.

Duncan Hunter's lawyers say if a trial happens it should be moved to a congressional district that is more Republican friendly.

Whelan said Duncan Hunter — a staunch supporter of President Donald Trump — easily won re-election to a sixth term after being indicted and therefore he should be able to be tried fairly here. He also disagreed prosecutors were on a political hunt and refused to toss the case.

Ky. senator eases back into public view after lung surgery

BY BRUCE SCHREINER
Associated Press

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — U.S. Sen. Rand Paul is easing back into public activities after his recent lung surgery sidelined him for part of the August congressional break.

The Kentucky Republican was set to deliver a speech Tuesday at a chamber of commerce luncheon in southern Kentucky. It marks his first public appearance since part of his lung was removed at a Tennessee hospital. The senator says the surgery stemmed from injuries suffered when a neighbor tackled him while he was doing

yard work at his Kentucky home in late 2017.

Initially, most of Paul's August travel plans were canceled due to the operation, more than a week ago at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville. But his recovery has progressed faster than expected, allowing him to go to Williamsburg for the chamber event Tuesday.

"I'm actually doing pretty well," Paul said in a phone interview with The Associated Press on Monday, his first since the surgery. "And like anybody else who's used to being active, it's hard to sit still. I'm ready to get back in the



Paul

mix of things and to start traveling around the state some."

His schedule will be scaled back considerably from what had been planned before the surgery, with just a handful of appearances planned in the next two weeks.

He'll return to Washington in September when Congress reconvenes, and by then "I shouldn't

have any limitations," Paul said.

The surgery became necessary after he had struggled with what turned out to be a lingering infection in the damaged lung, the senator said.

The senator's attacker, Rene Boucher, pleaded guilty to assaulting a member of Congress and received a 30-day prison sentence. Federal prosecutors have appealed, saying 21 months would have been appropriate. Paul sued Boucher, and a jury in Bowling Green, Ky., awarded the senator more than \$580,000 in damages and medical expenses. Boucher has since sold his home next door

to the senator.

While he was recovering, the nation was rocked by mass shootings in Texas and Ohio.

Paul, a strong gun-rights advocate, signaled his willingness to support something along the lines of "red flag" laws that allow guns to be removed from those who may be a danger to themselves and others.

"I'm not opposed to sort of an emergency order for 48 hours and then you get a hearing in a court where you get the full due-process protection," he said in the interview. "It's the one thing that could fix a lot of stuff. I think

NATION

IG: Child care costs often exceed subsidies

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Child care costs in most states exceed federal subsidy payments provided to low-income parents, according to a newly released report from the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Inspector General, leaving working families with few affordable options.

The report, released Tuesday, focuses on the Child Care Development Fund, an \$8.2 billion block grant that goes toward offsetting the cost of care for 1.4 million children nationwide. The fund is the primary federal funding source for child care assistance for eligible working parents.

The federal recommendation is that states provide payment rates at the 75th percentile, which allows eligible families to access 3 out of 4 providers without paying more out of pocket. But the report shows most states set their rates much lower.

States have discretion over the how to administer the program: They set their own income requirements and decide how much families are expected to contribute. The report cites several reasons that states may keep their rates low, including stretching limited resources to serve more families and taking into consideration the cost of higher-quality care. Nineteen states reported paying enrollment and registra-

tion fees for low-income families, and seven states said they pay for extra child care activities such as field trips.

The Administration for Children and Families, which oversees the block grant, relies on states to self-certify that they are setting rates that ensure low-income families have equal access to care. But the inspector general report shows most states aren't meeting the requirements.

Last year, under a bipartisan agreement, Congress approved a \$2.4 billion increase to the fund. But advocates say money continues to be a problem.

"CCDF is severely underfunded, and as families across the country are struggling to afford

care across all income levels, it's dire for low-income families," said Catherine White, director of child care and early learning at the National Women's Law Center.

Meanwhile, the Trump administration has moved to tighten work requirements for low-income families that receive food stamps and housing assistance, creating concern for parents unable to find affordable child care.

"This shows how the administration is talking out of both sides of their mouth," White said. "They say they want to support children and families, but they're stripping families of basic assistance they need. It's another trend where they are both not following

through on promises and needs of families, but working directly to undermine them."

The report recommends that ACF should develop new methods for ensuring equal access for CCDF families, establish a forum for states to share strategies, and encourage states to minimize administrative burdens to expand access for families.

In its response, ACF said it has placed 33 states on a corrective action plan to ensure they're complying with equal access requirements and accurately collecting data. ACF said it will provide states with training and guidance.

Women allege opera's Domingo abused power to harass them

By JOCELYN GECKER
Associated Press

For decades, Plácido Domingo, one of the most celebrated and powerful men in opera, has tried to pressure women into sexual relationships by dangling jobs and then sometimes punishing the women professionally when they refused his advances, numerous accusers told The Associated Press.

Regarded as one of the greatest opera singers of all time, Domingo also is a prolific conductor and the director of the Los Angeles Opera. The multiple Grammy winner is an immensely respected figure in his rarefied world, described by colleagues as a man of prodigious charm and energy who works tirelessly to promote his art form.

At 78, Domingo still attracts sellout crowds around the globe.

But his accusers and others in the industry say there is a troubling side to Domingo — one they say has long been an open secret in the opera world.

Eight singers and a dancer have told the AP that they were sexually harassed by the long-married, Spanish-born superstar in encounters that took place over three decades beginning in the late 1980s, at venues that included opera companies where he held top managerial positions.

One accuser said Domingo stuck his hand down her skirt and three others said he forced wet



Eight opera singers and a dancer have told The Associated Press that they were sexually harassed by Plácido Domingo — shown performing in 2006 — one of the most celebrated men in opera.

kisses on their lips — in a dressing room, a hotel room and at a lunch meeting.

Domingo did not respond to detailed questions from the AP about specific incidents, but issued a statement saying: "The allegations from these unnamed individuals dating back as many as thirty years are deeply troubling, and as presented, inaccurate."

"Still, it is painful to hear that I may have upset anyone or made them feel uncomfortable — no matter how long ago and despite my best intentions. I believed that

all of my interactions and relationships were always welcomed and consensual. People who know me or who have worked with me know that I am not someone who would intentionally harm, offend, or embarrass anyone."

"However, I recognize that the rules and standards by which we are — and should be — measured against today are very different than they were in the past. I am blessed and privileged to have had a more than 50-year career in opera and will hold myself to the highest standards."

Prosecutors focus on acts of some possible Epstein conspirators

Associated Press

NEW YORK — In the wake of Jeffrey Epstein's suicide, federal prosecutors in New York have shifted their focus to possible charges against anyone who assisted or enabled him in what authorities say was his rampant sexual abuse of underage girls.

Two days after the 66-year-old financier's death in a New York jail where he was awaiting trial on sex trafficking charges, Attorney General William Barr warned on Monday that "any co-conspirators should not rest easy."

Authorities are most likely turning their attention to the team of recruiters and employees who, according to police reports, knew about Epstein's penchant for underage girls and lined up victims for him. The Associated Press reviewed police reports, FBI records and court documents that show Epstein relied on an entire staff of associates to arrange massages that led to sex acts.

If any Epstein assistants hoped to avoid charges by testifying against him, that expectation has been upended by his suicide.

"Those who had leverage as potential cooperators in the case now find themselves as the primary targets," said Jacob S. Frenkel, a former federal prosecutor. "They no longer have anyone against whom to cooperate."

One possible roadblock to further charges is the plea agreement Epstein struck more than a decade ago in Florida. The non-prosecution agreement not only allowed Epstein to plead guilty in 2008 to lesser state charges and serve just 13 months behind bars, it also shielded from prosecution several associates who allegedly were paid to recruit girls for him.

Federal prosecutors in New York, in charging Epstein last month, argued that the nonprosecution agreement is binding only on their counterparts in Florida.

But Gerald Lefcourt, a lawyer who negotiated the agreement, said the deal should still protect any alleged co-conspirators for what happened between 2001 and 2007.

Police reports say Epstein's assistants worked like an advance team to facilitate his twice-daily massages, often from high school girls who were paid hundreds of dollars per "appointment." Epstein's personal assistant, Sarah Kellen, would call ahead to recruiters in Florida when Epstein was planning a trip to his Palm Beach mansion, the police reports say. Kellen, who is among four women named in the non-prosecution agreement, would allegedly greet girls arriving and escort them to a room with a massage table where Epstein would be waiting, wearing only a towel.

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NATION

Feds: Ohio gunman's friend bought body armor, ammo

BY JOHN SEEWER AND MICHAEL BALSAMO

Associated Press

A longtime friend of the Dayton gunman bought the body armor, a 100-round magazine and a key part of the gun used in the attack, but there's no indication the man knew his friend was planning a massacre, federal agents said Monday.

Ethan Kollie told investigators that he also helped Connor Betts assemble the AR-15-style weapon about 10 weeks ago, according to a court document.

Kollie first spoke with investigators just hours after the assault and later said he bought the body armor, the magazine and the rifle's upper receiver and kept the equipment at his apartment so Betts' parents would not find it, the court filing said.

Federal investigators emphasized that there was no evidence that Kollie knew how Betts would use the equipment or that Kollie intentionally took part in the planning.

The accusations came as prosecutors unsealed charges against Kollie that were unrelated to the Aug. 4 shooting. Early that day, Betts opened fire in a popular entertainment district, killing his sister and eight others. Police killed Betts within 30 seconds outside a crowded bar, and authorities have said hundreds more people may have died if Betts had gotten inside.

Prosecutors accused Kollie of lying about not using marijuanna on federal firearms forms in the purchase of a pistol that was not used in the shooting.

Possessing a firearm as an unlawful user of a controlled substance is a federal crime punishable by up to 10 years in prison. Making a false statement



Kollie

regarding firearms carries a potential maximum sentence of up to five years' imprisonment.

Kollie fully cooperated with authorities before his arrest, his attorney said.

"He was as shocked and surprised as everyone else that Mr. Betts committed the massacre," attorney Nick Gounaris said.

Gounaris would not comment on what Kollie thought his friend would do with the equipment.

Police have said there was nothing in Betts' background to prevent him from buying the gun.

The weapon was purchased online from a dealer in Texas and shipped to another firearms dealer in the Dayton area, police said.

Betts and Kollie apparently had been friends for several years.

Kollie told agents that he and Betts smoked marijuana and used acid several times a week beginning in 2014 through 2015, said U.S. Attorney Benjamin Glassman.

Investigators have not released a motive for the shooting.

Eight of the victims who died were shot multiple times, according to the Montgomery County coroner's office. More than 30 others were hurt, including at least 14 with gunshot wounds, hospital officials and investigators said.

Just days after the shooting, Ohio Republican Gov. Mike DeWine proposed a package of gun-control measures, including requiring background checks for nearly all gun sales in Ohio and allowing courts to restrict firearms access for people perceived as threats.

Two state lawmakers Monday reintroduced legislation that would restrict access to guns. One bill would establish universal background checks. The second would raise the minimum age for all gun purchases to 21.

Fourth NRA board member resigns

BY TOM HAMBURGER
The Washington Post

Julie Golob, a professional sport shooter and a strong public advocate for gun rights, announced Monday that she was resigning from the National Rifle Association board before the end of her three-year term.

She is the fourth member in the past two weeks to leave the board of the NRA in a sign of further upheaval within the nation's most powerful gun rights group.

Golob, a regular on shooting shows who has won competitions and is an advocate for women's use of firearms, did not state a reason for her departure in a note posted on her website.

"I am proud to have had the opportunity to represent the members of the NRA but I can no longer commit to fulfilling the duties of a director," she wrote. Golob was a well-known personality in the gun rights world and produced videos for the NRA with titles such as "Helping Women Choose a Gun."

She pledged to continue to support NRA "programs and sports" and to continue to advocate for "the preservation of freedom."

NRA President Carolyn Meadows thanked Golob for her service in a prepared statement

and noted that "Julie, a gifted shooter, will continue to support the NRA's programs. We proudly appreciate her ongoing support of our organization."

The NRA has a 76-member board of directors, most of whom continue to defend the current NRA leadership, which has been under heavy criticism in recent months.

Earlier this year, Oliver North was fired from his position as NRA president after raising questions about the finances of the tax-exempt organization. Perhaps even more significant for the organization's dominance in gun-policy debates, the NRA's top lobbyist, Christopher Cox, resigned after being accused of participating in an alleged scheme to push out NRA CEO Wayne LaPierre.

Before North left the NRA, he said the organization's private lawyer had earned extraordinary legal fees, and North requested a more detailed accounting of the spending.

Since North's departure, the organization has been roiled by allegations of self-dealing, including a report last week that LaPierre sought to have the nonprofit organization buy him a luxury mansion in 2018 after a mass shooting at a Florida high school.

Golob's departure — and the political impact — was noted Monday by another organization lobbying for action on firearms issues, Everytown for Gun Safety.

"Now another board member is calling it quits," said John Feinblatt, president of Everytown. "At this rate, they may be answering subpoenas rather than paying for political ads in 2020."

Pressure has also mounted on

the organization in the wake of last week's shootings in Dayton, Ohio, and El Paso, Texas. As a chorus again demands background checks and other restrictions on firearms sales, gun-control advocates say Golob's departure adds to the sense that the NRA is vulnerable.

"This is big," said David Chipman, senior policy adviser at the Courage to Fight Gun Violence organization, founded by former Arizona congresswoman Gabby Giffords. While NRA leaders "run for the exits," Chipman said his organization is seeing growth, particularly among gun owners.

"The NRA isn't really representing the values of gun owners and this has opened up a space," for concerned gun owners to express themselves on commonsense solutions to limit violence, he said.

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The reality of it is, he gives them drugs and then sexually



JACQUELINE LARMA/AP

Bill Cosby is escorted out of the Montgomery County Correctional Facility, in Eagleville, Pa., in September 2018 following his sentencing for sexual assault. A Pennsylvania appeals court was to hear arguments Monday as Cosby appeals his sexual assault conviction.

Cosby lawyers ask appeals court to toss #MeToo conviction

BY MARYCLAIRE DALE
Associated Press

HARRISBURG, Pa. — A Pennsylvania appeals court Monday questioned why actor Bill Cosby never got a supposed non-prosecution agreement in writing as his lawyers asked the panel to overturn his sexual assault conviction.

Cosby, 82, is serving a three- to 10-year prison term for drugging and molesting a woman at his home in what became the first criminal trial of the #MeToo era.

The three-judge panel asked why Cosby's top-shelf lawyers didn't follow the norm and get an immunity agreement in writing, and approved by a judge, when accuser Andrea Constand first came forward in 2005.

"This is not a low-budget operation ... They had an unlimited budget," said Superior Court Judge John T. Bender. "Could it be they knew this was something the trial court would never have allowed?"

Cosby's lawyers have long argued that he relied on the promise before giving testimony in Constand's 2005 lawsuit that proved incriminating when it was unsealed a decade later.

Judge Carolyn Nichols echoed Bender's point, asking, "how can the elected district attorney bind that in perpetuity?"

Cosby's lawyers also attacked Montgomery County Judge Steven O'Neill's decision to let five other accusers testify when Cosby went on trial last year, after more than 60 accusers came forward and his deposition was unsealed. Prosecutors said they chose women whose accounts showed that Cosby had a "signature" crime pattern. Bender seemed to agree, interrupting defense arguments that their stories had significant differences.

"The reality of it is, he gives them drugs and then sexually

assaults them," he said. "That's the pattern, is it not?"

Kristen L. Weisenberger, representing Cosby, said one of the women wasn't even sure she'd been violated, but prosecutors said that's how Cosby planned it.

"The defendant should not be rewarded because she has no recollection because of the drugs he gave her," Assistant District Attorney Adrienne Jappa argued.

The court's decision on how many other accusers should be allowed to testify will be closely watched by sexual assault survivors and defense lawyers as men like movie mogul Harvey Weinstein await trial in #MeToo-type cases.

O'Neill had allowed just one other accuser at Cosby's first trial in 2017, when the jury found him guilty of a verdict.

Cosby's lawyers called the decision to let five testify at the trial arbitrary and prejudicial. However, the panel said judges are not bound by their earlier trial rulings.

Cosby, who is serving time at a state prison near Philadelphia, was not in court for the arguments at the Pennsylvania Capitol in Harrisburg. The court typically takes several months to issue decisions.

Long beloved as "America's Dad" for his TV role as Dr. Cliff Huxtable, Cosby has called his encounters with Constand and other accusers consensual.

In his deposition, Cosby acknowledged getting quaaludes in the 1970s to give to women before sex, including Theresie Serigne, 19, whom he had met at a Las Vegas hotel. Serigne traveled from Florida to attend Monday's hearing.

"Remember, there are 60 accusers," she said. "Out of 19 prior bad act witnesses requested by the prosecutors, the judge only allowed five. I say Bill Cosby got a good deal there."

NATION

Ore. town braces for planned far-right rally

By GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press

PORTLAND, Ore. — Portland police are mobilizing to prevent clashes between out-of-state far-right groups planning a rally here and the homegrown anti-fascists who oppose them as America's culture wars seep into this progressive haven.

Saturday's rally — and the violence it may bring — are a relatively new reality here, as an informal coalition of white nationalists, white supremacists and extreme-right militias hones its focus on Oregon's largest city as a stand-in for everything it feels is wrong with the U.S. At the top of that list are the masked and black-clad anti-fascists who turn out to violently oppose right-wing demonstrators as soon as they set foot in town.

"It's Portland, and in the public mind it represents everything these (far-right) groups are against," said Heidi Beirich, director of the Intelligence Project at the Southern Poverty Law Center, which tracks hate groups. "It's progressive, and even more offensive to them, it's progressive white people who should be on these guys' side."

The groups know they will get a headline-grabbing reaction from Portland's so-called "antifa," whose members have issued an online call to their followers to turn out to "defend Portland from a far-right attack." Portland's Rose City Antifa, the nation's oldest active anti-fascist group, says violence against right-wing demonstrators is "exactly what should happen when the far-right attempts to invade our town."

Portland leaders are planning a



DAVE KILLIAN, THE OREGONIAN/AP

Police use pepper spray after a confrontation between authorities and protesters on June 29 in Portland, Ore. Portland police are preparing for a rally Saturday organized by far-right groups, and the likelihood of violence as opposing groups plan to attend.

major law enforcement presence on the heels of similar rallies in June and last summer that turned violent, and the recent hate-driven shooting in El Paso, Texas.

None of the city's nearly 1,000 police officers will have the day off, and Portland will get help from the Oregon State Police and the FBI. Mayor Ted Wheeler had said he may ask Gov. Kate Brown, a Democrat, to call up the Oregon National Guard.

Experts who track right-wing militias and hate groups warn that the mix of people heading to Portland also came together for a Unite the Right rally in 2017 in Charlottesville, Va., which ended

when a participant rammed his car into a crowd of counterprotesters, killing one person and injuring 19.

The rally is being organized by a member of the Proud Boys, who have been designated by the Southern Poverty Law Center as a hate group. Others expected include members of the American Guard, the Three Percenters, the Oathkeepers and the Daily Stormers. American Guard is a white nationalist group, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center, while the Three Percenters and the Oathkeepers are extremist anti-government militias. The Daily Stormers are neo-Nazis, ac-

cording to the center.

Portland's fraught history with hate groups adds to the complex dynamics.

Many of today's anti-fascists trace their activist heritage to a group that battled with neo-Nazis in Portland's streets decades ago, and they feel this is the same struggle in a new era, said Randy Blazak, the leading expert on the history of hate groups in Oregon.

"When I'm looking at what's happening right now, for me it's a direct line back to the 1980s: the battles between the racist skinheads and the anti-racist skinheads," Blazak said. "It's the latest version of this thing that's

Polygamous sect leader claims incompetency

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Impres- sional polygamist leader Warren Jeffs has suffered a mental breakdown and isn't fit to give a deposition in a sex abuse case against him, according to a recent court filing.

Forcing Jeffs to testify would be "futile," said lawyers repre- senting a community trust that once belonged to a polygamous sect run by Jeffs on the Utah-Arizona border.

The trust and Jeffs were sued in 2017 by a woman who says she was sexually abused by Jeffs when she was a child.

"The trust has received reports that Warren Jeffs has suffered a mental breakdown, and there seems to be a high likelihood that Warren Jeffs is not mentally competent to provide admissible testimony," lawyer Zachary Shields wrote in the July 8 filing.

Shields said Monday that he isn't trying to cover for Jeffs, who he says has done many

awful things, but that he doesn't want attorneys to waste time and money traveling to the Texas prison where Jeffs is housed until he is determined to be mentally competent.

This is not the first time issues of mental and physical health have emerged regarding Jeffs, 63. He is serving a life sentence in Texas for sexually assaulting girls he considered brides. He tried to hang himself in jail in 2007 in Utah, had to be force-fed in 2009 at an Arizona jail and was put in a medically induced coma in 2011 after fasting in the Texas prison.

The woman's attorney, Alan Mortensen, countered in a July 15 filing that there is no evidence to support the claim that Jeffs isn't mentally competent.

Mortensen accused the trust of being "understandably very fearful" about Jeffs' testimony because the trust is liable for actions of Jeffs, who was past president of the group known as The Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ



Warren Jeffs

of Latter-day Saints, or FLDS.

The state of Utah took over the trust in 2005 and the court oversaw it for more than a decade before a judge recently handed it over to a board of community members who are mostly former sect members.

A judge has set a court date on Aug. 27 in the southern Utah city of St. George to discuss if Jeffs will be ordered to give testimony.

Members of the FLDS still consider their leader and prophet to be Jeffs, even though he has been in jail since 2006. To his followers, he is a prophet who speaks to God who has been wrongly convicted.

Killer loses appeal, is step closer to facing firing squad

Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — A Utah death row inmate featured in the popular book "Under the Banner of Heaven" after killing his sister-in-law and her child for resisting his polygamous beliefs inched closer to becoming the first American to be executed by firing squad in nearly a decade after losing his latest appeal Monday.

Ron Lafferty could be executed as soon as next year after his latest legal setback, said Andrew Peterson, assistant solicitor general at the Utah attorney general's office.

Lafferty's lawyer, Dale Baich, said in an email that he will use all options to challenge the ruling and will likely ask the U.S. Supreme Court to review the case.

Lafferty chose the firing squad decades ago when he was sentenced to die — before Utah changed its law to use it only as a backup method if lethal injection drugs aren't available.

The last time a firing squad was used in the U.S. was in 2010,

been going on for 30 years in this city."

Police, meanwhile, have seemed overwhelmed by the cultural forces at war in their streets.

At the June rally, masked antifa members beat up a conservative blogger named Andy Ngo. Video of the 30-second attack grabbed national attention and further turned the focus on Portland as a new battleground in a divisive America.

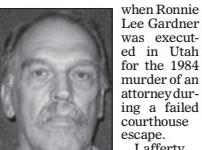
Blazak said he worries the extreme response from a small group of counterprotesters is starting to backfire. Many in the city oppose the right-wing rallies but also dislike the violent response of antifa, which provides social media fodder for the far-right.

"The opposition is playing right into the alt-right's hands by engaging with them this way," he said.

Joe Biggs, organizer of Saturday's rally, said the attack on Ngo made him decide to hold the event with the goal of getting antifa declared a domestic terrorist organization. Biggs said those coming to Portland have been told not to bring weapons or start fights, but they will defend themselves if attacked.

He says he is not racist — he has a toddler daughter with his Guyanese wife — but wants to show the world antifa's violent tactics.

"That group of antifa there in Portland needs to be exposed for who they are," Biggs said in a phone interview with The Associated Press. "And guess what? They should be scared."



when Ronnie Lee Gardner was executed in Utah for the 1984 murder of an attorney during a failed courthouse escape.

Lafferty was convicted in the 1984 slayings of his sister-in-law and her baby daughter, which he carried out with his brother. He claimed to get a revelation from God to kill the two because of her resistance to his fundamentalist beliefs in polygamy.

His case became well known nationwide when it was included in Jon Krakauer's 2003 book about radical offshoots of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The ruling Monday by the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver backed lower-court judgments in their previous rejections of the arguments.

NATION

Service animal flight rules clarified

By LORI ARATANI
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Airlines cannot limit the number of service animals on a flight, but will be allowed to deny boarding to an animal that is too large, too heavy or younger than four months, according to guidance provided Thursday by the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Officials are developing new rules governing what types of animals will be allowed to accompany passengers on flights and what documentation will be required to determine whether the animal's presence is a legitimate need.

Proposed regulations are expected to be released by the department later this year and it's possible new rules could be in place next summer or fall, officials said.

Until then, the information released Thursday is designed to clarify rules already in place.

The department's work comes at a time when the definition for what is considered a service animal has grown to include animals travelers say they need for emotional and psychological support when flying. As a result, the number of animals traveling with passengers has grown dramatically, leading to conflict and sometimes injury.

According to the industry trade group Airlines for America, the number of emotional support animals traveling aboard commercial flight increased from 481,000 in 2016 to 751,000 in 2017.

Last month, an American Airlines flight attendant received five stitches after she was

bitten by an emotional support dog on a flight out of Dallas/Fort Worth. DOT officials also said they have received reports of severe biting incidents in which children have been severely scarred.

"Today's action by the Department of Transportation is an important step to address what has become a mess of animals loose in the aircraft cabin," said Sara Nelson, international president of the Association of Flight Attendants-CWA. "Clear rules are necessary to ensure access to service animal assistance for people with disabilities and our veterans, while maintaining the safety, health and security of all passengers and crew on board our planes."

Service animals are animals that have been trained to perform a certain function, and under the Americans With Disabilities Act, reasonable accommodations must be made for a person using one. No training is required for emotional or psychiatric support animals, which has led to questions about their legitimacy.

Under current rules:

- Airlines are not allowed to ban certain breeds of service animals but can prevent an animal from flying if it determines that the specific animal poses a threat.

- Airlines can require documentation related to an animal's training and behavior, as well as vaccination, as long as the documentation would enable the airline to determine whether the animal poses a direct threat to the health or safety of others. However, the documentation requirement cannot be "overly restrictive" or "unduly restrict" passengers from traveling with their service animals.

- Airlines can require people traveling with emotional support animals to go through lobby check-in. Travelers with emotional or psychiatric support animals may also be required to check in one hour before check-in begins for regular passengers. This rule does not apply to travelers with service animals.

- Airlines may deny boarding to an animal that is too large or too heavy but cannot categorically ban animals over a certain weight. Airlines also can ban service animals younger than four months.

- Airlines can require passengers with animals on flights eight hours or longer to provide documentation or proof that an animal won't need to relieve itself or can handle itself in a way that doesn't create a health or sanitation issue on a flight. Airlines cannot automatically prohibit service animals on flights of eight or more hours.

- Airlines cannot limit the number of service animals on a flight.

- Airlines are not required to accept exotic animals, including snakes, ferrets, sugar gliders, spiders, rodents and reptiles.

- Airlines are not required to transport emotional or psychiatric support animals unless the passenger provides medical documentation of their need as specified under current rules.

DOT officials said that airlines will have 30 days to revise their rules to meet DOT's current requirements. Officials said they will continue to review all complaints, but given their resources will focus their efforts on cases involving the most common service animals — dogs, cats and miniature horses.

Man's dentures found stuck in his throat days after surgery

Associated Press

Here's why it's best to remove false teeth before surgery: You just might swallow them.

A medical journal is reporting the case of a 72-year-old British man whose partial dentures apparently got stuck in his throat during surgery and weren't discovered for eight days.

The man went to the emergency room because he was having a hard time swallowing and was coughing up blood. Doctors ordered a chest X-ray, diagnosed him with pneumonia and sent him home with antibiotics and steroids. It took another hospital visit before another X-ray revealed the problem: His dentures — a metal roof plate and three false teeth — lodged at the top of this throat.

The man thought his dentures were lost while he was in the hospital for minor surgery.

How it happened isn't exactly clear, but a half-dozen cases have been documented of dentures going astray as surgical patients were put to sleep.

Placing a tube in a patient's airway can push things where they don't belong, said Dr. Mary Dale Peterson, an anesthesiologist at Driscoll Children's Hospital in Corpus Christi, Texas.

Besides dentures, retainers, loose teeth and tongue piercings can cause problems, said Peterson, who is president-elect of the American Society of Anesthesiologists. Before a child's surgery, she'll pull a very loose tooth and tell the patient to expect a visit from the tooth fairy. "We can make a nice game of it."

In the British case, after the dentures were removed, the man had several bouts of bleeding that required more surgery before he recovered. The journal article didn't identify the man or the hospital involved.

What can be learned from this case? Doctors need to listen carefully to their patients and build a timeline of what happened rather than relying heavily on scans and tests, said Dr. Rui Amaral Mendes, an associate editor of BMJ Case Reports, which published the paper Monday.

For their part, patients should tell their doctors about mouth problems before surgery, said Mendes, an oral surgeon at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. That includes dentures, blisters and serious gum disease. Loose teeth could be knocked down the throat when tubes are put into the airway.

"Stay on the safe side," he said. "Inform your physician of what's going on in your mouth."

2 drugs that treat Ebola see success

By CLAIRE PARKER
The Washington Post

Two experimental Ebola treatments significantly increase survival rates for those infected with a disease often considered a death sentence, scientists announced Monday, providing fresh hope for containing an outbreak that has ravaged eastern Congo.

The drugs, tested in a nearly nine-month clinical trial, have performed so well that health professionals will now administer them to every patient in Congo.

"It's the first example that a therapeutic intervention can have a dramatic effect on decreasing the mortality of the Ebola virus disease," Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, said in an interview.

Jean-Jacques Muyembe Tamfum, a Congolese doctor who has spent his career researching Ebola treatments and oversaw the trial on the ground, said in a conference call Monday that he "could not have imagined" that such a day would come.

"From now on, we will no longer say that Ebola is incurable," he said.

But in a place where suspicion of health workers and violent conflict is widespread, finding effective medical therapies is only half the battle, experts say.

The outbreak — the world's second-worst — has infected nearly 2,800 people and killed nearly 1,900 since it began a year ago. The World Health Organization designated it a "public health emergency of international concern" last month.



Health workers in protective gear check on a patient at an Ebola treatment center in Beni, Congo, last month. Health authorities in Congo have halted an Ebola treatment study early with good news: Two of the four experimental drugs seem to be saving lives.

The new therapies were tested in a multi-drug, randomized, controlled trial conducted on the front lines of the Ebola outbreak since November. Researchers administered one of four drugs to the 681 patients who had participated in the study as of Friday.

When a monitoring group determined that two of those drugs were vastly outperforming the others based on data from 499 patients, scientists called off the study and said they would exclusively treat Ebola patients with the more effective drugs going forward.

The two antibody-based treatments, REGN-EB3 and mAb-114, work by blocking a critical protein in the Ebola virus. Patients receive them once, intravenously, and "ideally, as soon as possible" after infection, Fauci said. They saved about 90 percent of patients

with low levels of infection, according to preliminary data released from the trial. Across all levels of infection, patients who received REGN-EB3 had a mortality rate of 29 percent, while those treated with mAb-114 had a mortality rate of 34 percent. The average mortality rate for Ebola has been about 50 percent, according to the WHO.

These rates were far enough below those of the two other treatments — including ZMapp, first tested in the 2014 West Africa outbreak — that scientists decided to end the trial early. Now, all Ebola patients will receive one of the two more effective drugs.

"This underscores the importance of doing randomized, controlled trials. You can get ethically sound and scientifically sound information rapidly," Fauci said.

"Stay on the safe side," he said. "Inform your physician of what's going on in your mouth."

NATION



KIN CHEUNG/AP

A staff member works on a cellphone production line during a media tour in a Huawei Technologies Co. factory in Dongguan, China, in March. The U.S. is delaying tariffs on Chinese-made cellphones, laptop computers and other items and removing other Chinese imports from its target list altogether.

US delays tariffs on some Chinese goods, drops others

Bloomberg

The Trump administration will delay until mid-December the 10% tariff on some Chinese products on many holiday-shopping lists, with the president acknowledging that the levies would have hurt consumers.

By granting a grace period for everyday items like some phones and toys, the U.S. concession appears designed to avoid any disruption or additional price increases for American consumers heading into the final four months of the year — from back-to-school purchases to Christmas shopping.

The announcement also came as the two sides spoke for the first time since the recent escalation in tensions. President Donald Trump said his administration had a "very productive" call with China and that he thinks Beijing wants to "do something dramatic" on trade.

"They really would like to make a deal," Trump said Tuesday before boarding a helicopter in Morristown, N.J.

The levies were delayed "so it won't be relevant to the Christmas shopping season," he added.

Stocks surged on the news Tuesday. Apple spiked as much as 5.8% and Best Buy climbed as much as 11% on optimism that the reprieve would boost electronics sales in the holiday season.

Apparel retailers including Gap and L Brands rose, as did toy maker Hasbro and discount chain Dollar Tree.

The U.S. Trade Representative's office said in a statement Tuesday that tariffs would be delayed until Dec. 15 for items such as cellphones, laptop computers, video game consoles, certain toys, computer monitors, and certain items of footwear and clothing.

"What this means is that retailers will be able to get their ship-

Pew survey: 60% in US hold dim view of China

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Rising tensions over trade have dimmed Americans' opinions of China.

A new Pew Research Center poll finds that 60% say they have an unfavorable view of China — up from 47% last year to the highest proportion since Pew started asking the question 14 years ago.

The survey results being released Tuesday found that 24% of Americans regard China as America's top threat for the future, the same percentage that said so of Russia. North Korea (12%) was the only other country to draw double-digit concern.

The Trump administration and Beijing have been clashing for more than a year over allegations that China steals trade secrets, pressures foreign companies to hand over technology and unfairly subsidizes the country's own companies.

President Donald Trump has imposed tariffs on \$250 billion in Chinese goods and has said that on Sept. 1, he will

tax the \$300 billion in Chinese imports that he has so far spared. In retaliation, China has imposed tariffs on \$110 billion in U.S. products.

Still, the poll finds that only 41% of Americans believe that China's growing economy is a bad thing for the United States, compared with 50% who called a good thing. Respondents were far more worried about China's rising military power: 81% said it was bad, 11% good.

Half said he had no confidence in President Xi Jinping, the same as last year. In addition to being locked in a trade war with Trump, Xi has overseen a crackdown on dissent in China and a more combative foreign policy in East Asia.

Americans 50 and older were most likely to hold negative views of China (67%), compared with 58% of those ages 30-49 and 49% of those 18-29.

Likewise, 69% of Americans with a four-year college degree expressed disapproval of China, versus 57% of those who didn't have a degree.

Pew surveyed 1,503 adults from May 13 to June 18.

ments in without the 10% tariff, which is a sigh of relief," said Pooman Goyal, a retail analyst at Bloomberg Intelligence. "It definitely saves the holiday season."

Not all retailers will escape the hit, however. A wide range of goods, from shoes and apparel to sporting goods, will still be subject to a tariff as of Sept. 1.

While some tariffs will take effect on Sept. 1 as planned, "certain products are being removed from the tariff list based on health, safety, national security and other factors," the USTR also said.

About \$250 billion of Chinese goods have already been hit by 25% duties.

South braces for dangerous heat

Associated Press

ATLANTA — Most of the South — from Texas to parts of South Carolina — will be under heat advisories and warnings as temperatures will feel as high as 117 degrees, forecasters said.

The most intense heat Tuesday was expected in Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Alabama, and in areas near Memphis, Tenn.

The warnings come one day after the temperature and humidity combined for a Monday heat index of 121 degrees in Clarksville, Miss. It was only a few degrees cooler in West Memphis, Ark.

By 10 a.m. Tuesday, the heat index was already 111 degrees in Clarksville; and 108 in Savannah, Tenn., the National Weather Service reported. Those temperatures and others were expected to climb throughout the day.

In Alabama, the highest reported heat indexes Monday were 112 degrees in Florence, Tuscumbia and Gurley.

Forecasters say the heat index is what the temperature actually feels like.

Heat exhaustion and heat stroke are prime threats during heat waves, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In Kansas, a 2-year-old boy died after he was found alone in a

parked car in the afternoon heat Sunday. It appears heat played a role in the child's death, Lawrence Police Chief Gregory Burns Jr. said in a statement Monday. It was about 88 degrees with a heat index of 96 in Lawrence at the time, the weather service said. The police investigation is continuing.

In Texas, TXU Energy asked its customers to dial back their thermostats between 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Tuesday due to the extreme heat. The Electric Reliability Council of Texas, which oversees parts of the state's power grid, said it set an all-time peak demand record Monday afternoon.

The heat alerts in place on Tuesday stretched as far east as the Upstate area of South Carolina.

In Spartanburg, S.C., the Carolina Panthers and Buffalo Bills are practicing together Tuesday and Wednesday before a pre-season NFL game in Charlotte, N.C. Over the weekend, Panthers coach Ron Rivera had some fun with Bills coach Sean McDermott, sending a screenshot of the heat index in Spartanburg. It showed 110 degrees along with an orange emoji face dripping with sweat.

"A psychological game" Rivera joked of the scorching heat that awaits McDermott and the Bills this week.

Trump trashes CNN's Chris Cuomo over 'Fredo' confrontation

New York Daily News

NEW YORK — President Donald Trump trashed Chris Cuomo for getting into a profanity-laced confrontation with a man who addressed him as "Fredo."

Interrupting his golf vacation, Trump repeated the anti-Italian slur to slam the CNN anchor, whom he accused of losing his cool due to "low ratings."

"I thought Chris was Fredo too," Trump said on Twitter. "The truth hurts."

Donald Trump Jr. earlier called Chris Cuomo "the dumb brother" for letting himself get dragged into the confrontation, which was apparently staged by a right-wing YouTube show.

He used a wink-wink emoji to stress that Chris Cuomo isn't as bright as his brother, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo.

"Fredo" isn't the N word for Italians, it just means you're the dumb brother," Donald Trump Jr. wrote on Twitter.

The Twitter spat erupted over

a YouTube video that depicted Chris Cuomo squaring off against a stranger who apparently called him "Fredo." The anchor is shown angrily berating the man and repeatedly cursing at him. He even threatens to throw him down the stairs. The video ends when others step in between the two men.

A Trump reelection campaign spokeswoman blasted Chris Cuomo as racist for comparing a casual put-down from the movies to a "dehumanizing word used against blacks."

Chris Cuomo got some surprising support from Sen. HANNITY, who broke with his right-wing allies to say the fellow TV personality was right to stand up to an obnoxious bully.



Cuomo

WORLD

Riot police clash with protesters at Hong Kong airport

By YANAN WANG
AND KATIE TAM
Associated Press

HONG KONG — Riot police clashed with pro-democracy protesters at Hong Kong's airport late Tuesday night, moving into the terminal where the demonstrators had shut down operations at the busy transport hub for two straight days.

Officers armed with pepper spray and batons confronted the protesters who used luggage carts to barricade entrances to the airport terminal.

Police took several people into a van waiting at the entrance to the airport's arrivals hall.

Police said they tried to help ambulance officers reach an injured man whom protesters had detained on suspicion of being an undercover agent.

Protesters also detained a second man who they suspected of being an undercover agent. After emptying out his belongings, they found a blue T-shirt that has been worn by pro-Beijing supporters that they said was evidence he was a spy.

Earlier in the day, authorities were forced to cancel all remain-



KIN CHEUNG/AP

Some protesters wore bandages over one eye in solidarity with a comrade reportedly hit with a beanbag round.

ing flights as the city's pro-Beijing leader warned that the protesters had pushed events onto a "path of no return."

After a brief respite early Tuesday during which flights were able to take off and land, the airport authority announced checks in services for departing flights were suspended as of 4:30 p.m. Departing flights that had completed the process would continue to operate.

It said it did not expect arriv-



PHOTOS BY KIN CHEUNG/AP

Policemen in riot gear arrest a protester during a demonstration Tuesday at the airport in Hong Kong. Chaos has broken out at the airport as riot police moved into the terminal to confront protesters who shut down operations at the busy transport hub for two straight days.

ing flights to be affected, though dozens were already canceled. The authority advised people not to come to the airport, one of the world's busiest transport hubs.

On Monday, more than 200 flights were canceled and the airport was effectively shut down with no flights taking off or landing.

Passengers have been forced to seek accommodation in the city while airlines struggle to find other ways to get them to their destinations.

The airport disruptions are an escalation of a summer of demonstrations aimed at what many Hong Kong residents see as an in-

creasing erosion of the freedoms they were promised in 1997 when Communist Party-ruled mainland China took over what had been a British colony.

Those doubts are fueling the protests, which build on a previous opposition movement that shut down much of the city for seven weeks in 2014. That movement eventually fizzled out and its leaders were jailed on public disturbance charges.

The central government in Beijing has ominously characterized the current protest movement as something approaching "terrorism" that poses an "existential threat" to the local citizenry.

While Beijing tends to define terrorism broadly, extending it especially to nonviolent movements opposing government policies in minority regions such as Tibet and Xinjiang, the government's usage of the term in relation to Hong Kong raised the prospect of greater violence and the possible suspension of legal rights for those detained.

Meanwhile, paramilitary police were assembling across the border in the city of Shenzhen for exercises which some saw as a threat to increase force against the mostly young protesters who have turned out in the thousands over the past 10 weeks.

Man accused of killing woman in Sydney rampage

By TREVOR MARSHALLSE
Associated Press

SYDNEY — A knife-wielding man with a history of mental illness is suspected of slaying a woman in a downtown Sydney apartment before wounding another woman nearby and attempting to stab other people Tuesday while yelling "Allahu akbar," or "God is great," police and witnesses said.

Police have not labeled the rampage an act of terrorism, although the 21-year-old assailant — who was restrained by members of the public before being arrested — had collected information on his computer about mass killings in North America and New Zealand, New South Wales state Police Commissioner Michael Fuller said.

"It is not currently classed as a terrorist incident. Obviously as the investigation continues we will reassess that," Fuller told reporters.

"He by definition, at the moment, a lone actor. Information was found on him that would suggest he has some ideologies in relation to terrorism, but he has no links to terrorism," Fuller said. "There was certainly information found on him about other crimes of mass casualties and mass deaths around the world."

A gunman who recently killed 22 people at a Texas Walmart appears to have praised the March 15 shootings in Christchurch, New Zealand, where an Australian white supremacist is charged with killing 51 worshippers at two mosques.

Witnesses said the assailant Tuesday was carry-



DEAN LEWINS, AAP IMAGE/AP

A woman is taken by ambulance from Hotel CBD in Sydney on Tuesday. Police said a young man yelling about religion and, armed with a knife, attempted to stab several people before being arrested.

ing a 12-inch knife and attempted to stab multiple people near a busy intersection in Australia's largest city at around 2 p.m. Fuller described the weapon as a butcher's knife.

Police said a man was arrested, and that a 41-year-old woman with a stab wound to her back was taken to a hospital in stable condition.

Police said the body of a 21-year-old woman was later discovered in a nearby fourth-floor apartment.

"A number of members of the public physically restrained the offender," Police Superintendent Gavin Wood said. "I want to acknowledge those members of the public who got involved. They were significantly brave people."

A witness told reporters that the man was screaming comments about religion, before yelling to police that he wanted to be shot. Police said he used the Arabic phrase "Allahu akbar."

Kremlin says Putin doesn't view protests as significant

Associated Press

MOSCOW — The Kremlin on Tuesday broke weeks of silence on opposition protests and police violence in Moscow, saying that President Vladimir Putin does not see the increasing wave of discontent as anything significant.

The Russian capital has been gripped by three consecutive weekends of large-scale opposition protests, with police arresting and detaining more than 1,000 people. Saturday's rally was believed to be the largest in eight years. The huge protests followed some smaller demonstrations earlier this summer.

Giving the Kremlin's first official comments on the protests in Moscow, spokesman Dmitry Peskov said Tuesday that Putin has not spoken out about the demonstrations because he does not think there is anything "exceptional" about them.

"Protests happen in many countries," he said, adding that there are more important events in Russia for the president to care about.

Peskov rejected suggestions that the protests have plunged the Kremlin into a political crisis and defended police response at the

three weekends of protests.

"We believe that a disproportionate use of force by law enforcement officers is absolutely unacceptable, but we think that the police response in clamping down on rioting was totally justified," Peskov told reporters.

Some of the opposition gatherings in the past weeks did not receive official permission, and authorities deployed a sizeable police force to disperse peaceful protesters. Police officers were seen using force on individuals who were merely standing on the street and who did not put up resistance during arrest.

Russian investigators last month launched a criminal probe into alleged rioting even though no property damage or violence from the demonstrators has been reported. Peskov on Tuesday refused to comment on why authorities describe the protests as riots.

The Moscow protests originally started last month as a reaction to authorities' refusal to register a number of independent candidates for the upcoming election to the Moscow city legislature. They later gained momentum to reflect widespread frustration with Russia's tightly controlled politics.

WORLD

Kashmir lockdown enters 9th day

Associated Press

SRINAGAR, India — Residents of Indian-administered Kashmir were running short of essentials on Tuesday as an unprecedented security lockdown kept people indoors for a ninth day.

India has imposed a near-constant curfew and a communications blackout as it tries to stave off a violent reaction to the government's decision on Aug. 5 to strip Kashmir of its autonomy.

The reaction to India's move has so far been largely subdued. But anti-India protests and clashes have occurred daily, mostly as soldiers withdraw from the streets at dusk. Though the scale of the lockdown is unprecedented, civil resistance to Indian rule is not uncommon in Kashmir, and young men have hurled stones and abuse at police and soldiers.

Indian troops patrolling the disputed region allowed some Muslims to walk to mosques to mark the Eid al-Adha festival on Monday, and shops were opened briefly on previous days.

The lockdown is expected to last at least through Thursday, India's independence day.

Surveillance drones and military helicopters hovered over Srinagar, the region's main city. On Sunday, soldiers stopped vehicles in the city's main business hub, causing a traffic jam just as a low-flying drone passed by, according to Javaid Ahmed, a resident who said he witnessed the scene from a nearby building.

He said he later saw the same scene broadcast on Indian TV channels.

"That footage was used to say Kashmir was normal with everyone thronging the streets," Ahmed said.

Kashmiris fear India's move to put the region under greater New Delhi control will alter its demographics and cultural identity.

India said its decision to revoke Kashmir's special constitutional status and downgrade it from statehood to a territory would free it from separatism.

Rebels have been fighting India for decades. Some 70,000 people have died in clashes between militants and civilian protesters and Indian security forces since 1989. Most Kashmiris want either independence or a merger with Pakistan.

Kashmir is split between India and Pakistan and is claimed by both. The nuclear-armed rivals have fought two wars over it. The first ended in 1948 with the region divided and a promise of a U.N.-sponsored referendum on its future. It has never been held.



PHOTOS BY JAE C. HONG/AP



Best in bouldering

Above: Defending bouldering world champion Janja Garnbret, of Slovenia, winner of the women's bouldering final at the International Federation of Sport Climbing World Championships, competes Tuesday in Hachioji, Japan. The competition is doubling as an Olympic qualifier, as sport climbing will make its Olympic debut next year in Tokyo. **Left:** Yannick Flohé, of Germany, competes in the men's bouldering semifinal.

Tesla on Autopilot hits truck, explodes

The Washington Post

A Tesla using an advanced-driver assistance system slammed into the back of a tow truck on a Moscow highway over the weekend, bursting into flames after the collision and injuring the driver, according to Russian news reports and social media footage.

The driver, Aleksey Tret'yakov, 41, told Russian news outlet REN TV that the vehicle was operating in Autopilot mode at the time of the crash. Tret'yakov broke his leg, the reports said, and he was accompanied in the vehicle by two children who also required medical attention.

It was not immediately clear what type of Tesla the driver was in. Tesla declined to comment on the crash, which occurred Saturday.

The collision was the latest in a string of highly publicized crashes in which Tesla's Autopilot was allegedly engaged. In the U.S., investigators have probed at least three fatal crashes involving Autopilot. The feature was active during another deadly crash in China.

The crash over the weekend was the first of its kind in Russia, however, according to news reports.

Tesla's Autopilot assists with keeping a vehicle in its lane, steering and other functions like taking the vehicle from highway on-ramp to off-ramp. Still, the driver is told to be fully engaged and alert during the operation of the vehicle.

The automaker has consistently said that Autopilot is safer than a human driving alone. It says the

crash rate with Autopilot is nearly half that during normal unassisted human driving — though it hasn't released detailed data for verification.

Tesla has consistently come under regulatory scrutiny for claims regarding the safety of its vehicles. Its pledge to release vehicles capable of "full self-driving" by year's end have worried safety regulators and industry competitors. The Washington Post has reported.

Federal regulators also scolded Tesla CEO Elon Musk last year for making what they said were "misleading statements" on Tesla safety, including claiming that Tesla's Model 3 has the lowest probability of injury of any vehicle the federal government had tested.

Canadian police: Teen suspects killed selves

By ROB GILLIES

Associated Press

TORONTO — Canadian police said Monday they believe two teenage fugitives suspected of killing a North Carolina woman, her Australian boyfriend and another man took their own lives amid a nationwide manhunt.

The Manitoba Medical Examiner completed the autopsies and confirmed that two bodies found last week in dense bush in northern Manitoba province were indeed Kam McLeod, 19, and Bryer Schmegelsky, 18. A police statement said they appeared to die by suicide.

McLeod and Schmegelsky were charged with second-degree murder in the death of Leonard Dyck, a University of British Columbia lecturer whose body was found July 19 along a highway in British Columbia.

They were also suspects in the fatal shootings of Australian Lucas Fowler and Chynna Deese of Charlotte, N.C., whose bodies were found July 15 along the Alaska Highway about 300 miles from where Dyck was killed.

The couple had met at a hotel in Croatia and their romance blossomed as they adventured across the U.S., Mexico, and elsewhere, the woman's older brother said.

A manhunt for the teenage suspects had spread across three provinces and involved the Canadian military. The suspects had not been seen since July 22, and their bodies were found near Gillam, Manitoba — more than 2,000 miles from northern British Columbia.

Police said in a statement McLeod and Schmegelsky were dead for a number of days before they were found.

Two guns were located, and authorities are working to confirm that the firearms are connected to the murders in British Columbia.

The British Columbia Prosecution Service said criminal charges don't move forward if the person who has been accused is proven dead.

Police said items that were found on the shoreline of the Nelson River proved key in helping locate the suspects.

Specialized teams began searching high-probability areas nearby, and on Wednesday morning, the two bodies were found within 0.6 miles of the objects.

The deaths of the three victims had shaken rural northern British Columbia and Manitoba.

McLeod and Schmegelsky grew up on Vancouver Island and worked together at a local Walmart before they set off on what their parents thought was a trip to Yukon for work.

They were originally considered missing persons and only became suspects later.

TECHNOLOGY

Europe wrestles with rise of electric scooters

BY ANGELA CHARLTON
Associated Press

PARIS — Ban them outright. Issue speeding tickets. Make users take a driving test. From Paris to Berlin, European cities are searching for solutions to the two-wheeled phenomenon that's fast transforming cityscapes worldwide: Electric scooters.

Proponents call them a leap into the future, an exhilarating, app-based way to zip from the Louvre to the Eiffel Tower without generating planet-choking pollution.

Rubbish, say critics, noting growing numbers of injuries and even deaths involving e-scooters. They decry a new nuisance to pedestrians, cyclists and drivers who are already battling for the limited space on city streets.

Across the U.S., cities are also struggling to regulate companies renting the vehicles and keep riders safe. Here's what some European countries are doing about it:

■ **France:** France's government met Monday with the victims of scooter accidents as it prepares new rules. Paris alone has more free-floating scooter companies than the entire United States, according to a June study, and at least 20,000 whizzing through its historic streets.

Most are app-based, rented scooters that you pick up and drop off wherever you want, and that's especially appealing to tourists and teens. But victims' groups say these users don't know French road rules and can't always be held liable for accidents. One scooter driver has been killed in Paris and scores injured this year.

Paris imposes \$150 fines for riding on the sidewalk on scooters. The city's mayor wants to limit scooter speeds to 12 mph in most areas, and 5 mph in areas with heavy foot traffic. She plans to limit the number of operators to three and cap the number of scooters.

New rules expected in September will expand those limits to other French cities, and include potential speeding fines up to \$1,680.

Critics say current proposals don't go far enough. Some want age limits for riders, and to require them to take driving tests and have insurance, so that governments don't have to pay for medical care or other damage they cause.

■ **Germany:** Berlin legalized electric scooters two months ago and quickly realized it needs tougher rules.

Last week, city officials in the German capital announced plans for on-street parking zones for the battery-powered vehicles, which are often left haphazardly on sidewalks. Berlin police will also step up patrols to prevent illegal behavior such as doubling.

German police say seven people have been seriously injured and 27 suffered minor injuries in scooter accidents since mid-June,



LEWIS JOLY/AP

A man rides an electric scooter in Paris on Monday.

After deadly wrecks, Atlanta bans electric scooters at night

BY JEFF MARTIN AND ANDREA SMITH
Associated Press

ATLANTA — Atlanta is banning electric scooters in the nighttime hours during what's been a deadly summer for riders.

The ban comes as cities across the nation struggle to regulate the companies renting the devices and keep riders safe.

In Atlanta, three riders have died since May in crashes that involved a public bus, an SUV and a car. Police in the Atlanta suburb of East Point say a fourth rider was killed there last week in a collision involving his scooter and a truck.

"Sadly, we have seen a pattern in the recent and tragic fatalities involving scooters — they all occurred after sunset," Atlanta Mayor Keisha Lance Bottoms said in a statement Thursday.

City officials on Thursday announced a ban on electric scooters and electric bikes from 9 p.m. until 4 a.m. daily. The ban takes effect Friday.

"This environment didn't exist 14 months ago or 12 months ago — this is a brand new thing," Tim Keane, Atlanta's commissioner of city planning, said in an interview Thursday.

"We want this to be temporary," he said. "We hope that this ban is very temporary."

City officials have asked e-scooter vendors to disable the devices during the hours they're

banned, the mayor said. The companies are cooperating, and "I've heard no pushback at all," Keane said.

"We think it's a reasonable step as a temporary measure while the scooter program is re-examined," said Nima Daivari, Lime's community affairs manager for Georgia. San Francisco-based Lime has one of the largest fleets in Atlanta, with an average of about 1,800 available for rent last month. "They see the value here, and Atlanta is a city that's notorious for traffic congestion."

Traffic safety data showing the dangers of riding during late-night hours is "compelling," Santa Monica, Calif.-based Bird said in a statement Thursday. It had more than 1,200 devices operating in Atlanta last month, city records show.

Late-night and early-morning travel, especially between midnight and 5 a.m., is "many times more dangerous due to impaired road users, fatigue and poor visibility," Bird said. The company has managed its service hours to avoid late night riding, and will comply with Atlanta's new guidelines, it added.

Other communities, including Dallas; Nashville, Tenn.; and Athens, Ga., have recently considered some form of regulation of scooters, partly over concerns about safety.

Chicago has a nighttime ban similar to Atlanta's new policy.

saying most were due to riders behaving carelessly.

While pro-scooter folks say they're a way to cut down on more polluting forms of transport, the anti-scooter faction says they're mainly used by people who would otherwise walk or take public transport anyway.

■ **Britain:** In the U.K., e-scooters are banned from sidewalks and it is an offense to use them on the roads because they don't comply with laws requiring insurance, taxes and driver testing. Advocates have protested, arguing that it's time for a change in regulations.

Television presenter and YouTuber personality Emily Hartridge, 35, became the first person in Britain to be killed while riding an e-scooter when she was struck by a truck in south London on July 12.

The following day, a 14-year-old boy suffered a head injury

after crashing into a bus stop in southeast London.

■ **Spain:** Electric scooters dot the urban landscapes of major Spanish cities and the official traffic regulator has prepared new guidelines — but their approval hinges on Spanish politicians forming a new national government after a hung parliament emerged from April's national election.

In the meantime, cities have adopted a hodge-podge of restrictions.

Helmetas are only mandatory in Madrid for those under 16. Yet they are compulsory for everyone in Barcelona, where a 92-year-old died after she was run over by an electric scooter last year. The rider was investigated for involuntary homicide but was ultimately only fined because of the lack of regulations.

In Madrid, the city requires scooter-users to operate only in roads with more than one lane per way, while imposing a maximum speed limit of 18.6 mph.

Seville last week joined the scooter ride-sharing frenzy, but the southern city's rental operator is testing a way to self-restrict rides to and from designated private parking spots.

■ **Belgium:** Brussels — the capital of Belgium and the European Union — has been inundated with e-scooters over the last year.

But each of the 19 municipalities that make up Brussels has its own rules on the vehicles. Some impose fines or speed limits, while others impose parking restrictions.

The Brussels region is now gathering information from all these municipalities to streamline the rules. A city spokeswoman said there has been one deadly accident so far involving e-scooters and a major hospital says it's treating up to two injuries a day related to scooter incidents.

Helmetas are not required by law, but debate is swirling around obliging scooter and mono-wheel riders to wear them.

■ **Italy:** Italy's transportation ministry set new rules last month for e-scooters, Segways, hoverboards and other electric forms of transport.

Scooters are allowed in streets — but can't go faster than 18 mph. In pedestrian areas, e-scooter speeds are limited to just 3.6 mph. Now it's up to Italian cities to designate areas and post signs, and establish rules for scooter-sharing businesses.

■ **Balkan countries:** In the Balkan countries, e-scooters are still operating in a grey zone, except for Slovenia, which is drafting legislation that will restrict them to pedestrian areas and bicycle lanes.

The maximum speed will be restricted to 15 mph, but in pedestrian zones, electric scooters will have to stay at a walking pace.

They will be subject to same local rules as for bicycles, which means they will have to have lights and helmets will be mandatory for underage riders.

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

Man accused of taking 76 cigarette cartons

VT WORCESTER — A Royalton man is accused of stealing \$10,000 worth of cigarettes from a market in Worcester.

Vermont State Police said the 76 cartons of cigarettes and other items from a burglary in Washington and two break-ins at the Waterbury Park and Ride were found in the vehicle of Thomas Farnsworth, 46. WCAX-TV reported that police said Farnsworth's sneakers also matched a footprint left behind at LBJ's Grocery from where the cigarettes were stolen.

Police say fireworks mistaken for gunfire

UT BOUNTIFUL — Police in Bountiful were searching for the person responsible for setting off fireworks in a park restroom, which were mistaken for gunfire.

The Bountiful City Police Department said that investigators are working to identify a suspect seen on surveillance video at a city park.

According to police, someone lit large aerial fireworks and severely damaged a bathroom. They said people in the area mistook them for gunshots.

Police said a vehicle involved in the incident is described as a newer silver Ford truck that had furniture in the bed.

Heinz helping person who took, gave ketchup

NJ LACEY TOWNSHIP — Heinz is helping the person who was hit by guilt and bad fortune after stealing a bottle of ketchup from a restaurant in New Jersey.

The so-called "Ketchup Thief" earlier this month left two new bottles of the condiment along with not saying the person had stolen the ketchup because it would be "risky." However, the person's car was struck a few hours later and the person's "karma" took a turn for the worse. The person hoped luck would be restored by leaving two new bottles.

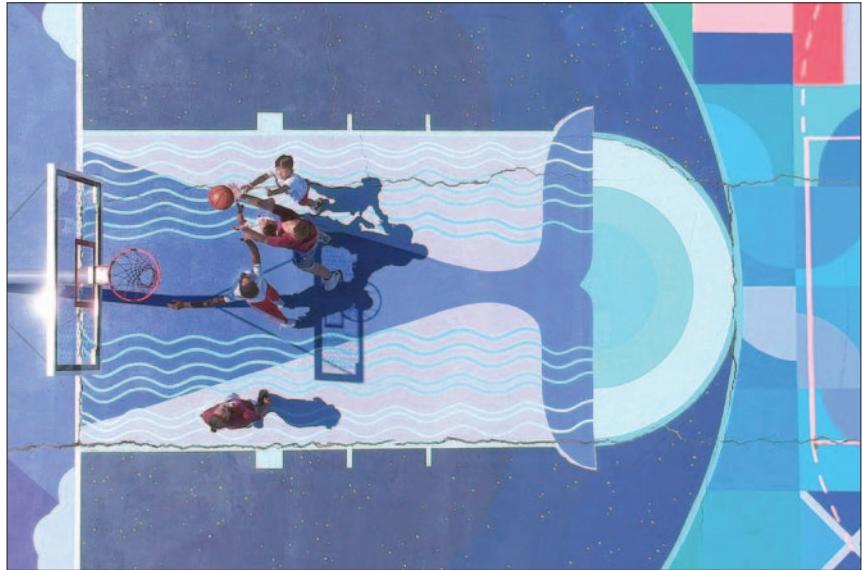
Heinz, writing on Twitter, said "Heinz makes you do crazy things." The Pittsburgh-based company offered to help the reformed thief pay for the car damage without revealing the person's identity.

Heinz posted that it found the person.

Boy writes about maple sugaring, wins contest

NH NEW BOSTON — A New Boston boy who wrote and illustrated a book about maple sugaring with his dad has won a statewide contest.

The New Hampshire Maple Producers Association gave the annual Walter A. Felker Memorial Award to Trevor Gaudet. The contest was open to New Hampshire residents 16 and younger and aimed to encourage interest in the state's maple sugaring tradition.



PETER PEREIRA, (NEW BEDFORD, MASS.) STANDARD TIMES/AP

A whale of a game

Youngsters enjoy a game of basketball on the just-painted courts at Clasky Common Park in New Bedford, Mass., on Friday as part of a block party by Creative Courts, who painted the courts with a nautical theme.

County fair setting up 'free-expression area'

OR GRANTS PASS — One Oregon county fair is setting up a "free-expression area," with restrictions on bullhorns, signs and sound systems.

The Daily Courier reported the Josephine County Fair is setting up a 30-foot-by-30-foot outdoor area near two of the entrances to a building where vendors will be set up for the upcoming fair.

The fair board recently banned signs except in areas where vendors and others have paid a fee to use them.

Fairgrounds director Tamra Martin said efforts have been made to create a "family-friendly" entertaining event. She said the location of the "free-expression area" provides visibility for those wanting to be heard.

Group finds more artifacts at dig site

IL WILMINGTON — A group conducting an archaeological dig in northern Illinois found pieces of broken pottery, projectile points and other artifacts dating to the 1600s.

Two University of Notre Dame professors have been leading summer volunteers on an exploration at the Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie. The project at the Middle Grant Creek Site is revealing how people of the Oneota culture lived in the area four centuries ago.

THE CENSUS

300

The approximate number of tires Pennsylvania State

Policeman said a woman and two teenagers dumped in a parking lot of a vacant motel in Schuylkill County. The Reading Eagle reported that troopers found June Kuzowksi, 61, and two 15-year-olds throwing the tires out of a truck and onto the lot on Saturday night. Police determined Kuzowksi had the teens load the truck with the tires at an auto garage and drove to the lot to dispose of them. She's charged with scattering rubbish and corruption of minors.

Earlier this month volunteers digging in a 6-foot-deep pit found projectile points made of rock that would have been used for hunting. They've also found painted pottery and needles made from bones, which were likely used to weave mats from tallgrass.

Firemen rescue worker dangling from tower

FL FORT MYERS — A utility worker was in a Florida hospital after fainting 100 feet above the ground and dangling from a tower until firefighters could rescue him.

The Fort Myers Fire Department said the man was installing cabling on a 200-foot communications tower when he reported becoming ill. He fainted and injured his head as he tried to climb down the structure. Fort Myers Deputy Fire Chief Tracy McMillion said the man's harness kept him from falling to the ground.

The News-Press reported that the man suffered "significant head injury" and was taken to Lee Memorial Hospital.

Bear breaks into house, leaves through a wall

CO DENVER — A black bear broke into a Colorado house over the weekend and left by breaking through a wall "like the Kool-Aid Man."

Estes Park police say the break-in occurred Friday night and that the animal was likely attracted to trash.

A Facebook post by the police department said: "Upon officer's arrival, said bear forcibly breached a hole in the wall like the 'Kool-Aid Man' and made its escape."

The Denver Post reported no one was injured.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife said bears entered over 35 vehicles and nine residences in the Estes Park area in the 10 days before Aug. 3.

Officer rescues dog kicked out of car

CA PLACERVILLE — The California Highway Patrol is trying to find who kicked

out a dog out of a vehicle and abandoned the animal on the side of Highway 50 in Placerville.

The CHP's Placerville office said witnesses reported seeing a vehicle slow down before someone kicked the dog out and the vehicle sped off. It said an officer quickly got there and rescued the dog before it was hurt.

The agency is asking anyone with information on who may have abandoned the dog to call.

Newspaper carrier aids possible crime victim

IA ANKENY — Court records show a Des Moines newspaper carrier helped save a woman caught in a sex trafficking ring.

The Des Moines Register said one of its delivery workers, Laron Franz, was on her paper route on July 28 in Ankeny when she saw a woman waving her arms on the side of the road. When Franz pulled over, the woman — who had no cellphone or ID — was crying and said she wanted to go back home to a small town about an hour northwest of Ankeny.

Franz took the woman to a convenience store, where an employee called police.

Police arrested a 25-year-old woman from East Dubuque, Ill., on suspicion of pimping and human trafficking.

From wire reports

FACES



By RICK BENTLEY

Tribune News Service

Few actors have been as entrenched in the science fiction, fantasy and comic book genres as Morena Baccarin. It started in 2002 with the cult favorite "Firefly" and has continued through "Stargate SG-1," "V," "Deadpool," "The Flash" and "Gotham."

There's just one peculiar thing about being closely associated with projects that make people flock to Comic-Con. Carving out such a deep place in the roles wasn't something Baccarin completely planned.

"It just kept happening. My very first TV job was 'Firefly' and then people started thinking of me in those terms, so I started getting other similar roles," Baccarin says. "But, I also like looking for strong female characters and when I started, that's where the strong female characters were — in the sci-fi, fantasy world. Now it is changing so much."

Baccarin continues to get questions about "Firefly," which ended 16 years ago. She is amazed that people are still obsessed with it and proud she was part of something that people continue to love.

Baccarin has been able to work in other projects, with appearances on "Heartland" and "Homeland." Her latest job, "Ode to Joy," gave her the opportunity to show her skills with romantic comedies. In the film, she plays the woman who captures the heart of a man (Martin Freeman) who has spent his life keeping his emotions in check because of a medical condition that results in him passing out if his emotions spike.

Baccarin welcomed the change of pace because she had been looking for "something different, something lighter." The search was happening while she was in the middle of playing Leslie Thompkins on the dark and moody "Gotham." Once she landed the role, the film was shot during a summer hiatus from "Gotham" that stretched into the first few episodes of the series.

Owed To Joy

Morena Baccarin welcomes shift from Comic-Con fare in new romantic comedy

IFC Films photo

What surprised her was the medical twist. When she heard about Freeman's character's condition, she thought the writers had made it all up. It wasn't until after getting assurances from director Jason Winer that the film was inspired by a true story that she felt comfortable with the idea.

Knowing the twist was real was important because without it, "Ode to Joy" would have been a typical romantic comedy. Baccarin has already shown with her work in "Deadpool" that she has an interest in romantic comedies that are different.

Once Baccarin got on board, she found herself working with another actor who has a reputation of working in science fiction, fantasy and comic book genres with Freeman, whose credits include "Black Panther" and "The Hobbit: An Unexpected Journey."

"He is a really nice guy who is very funny and very sweet," Baccarin says. "He is a really hard worker. We hit it off great. He is a very smart actor and I really appreciated that. We played around with every scene and the director had us improv a few things. We got some rehearsal time together before the filming started and that was very helpful because we could go through the scenes."

Not only was that time used to get comfortable, but Baccarin worked with writer Max Wernow to fill in the blanks about her character's past. This has been the process for the

Brazilian-American actress since she ended up following in the footsteps of her mother, Vera Setta, by going into acting. Baccarin was born in Rio de Janeiro, but her family moved to New York when she was young.

"My mother was acting in Brazil but stopped when we moved to the states when I was 7 years old. I had grown up around acting and it was something that was very familiar to me," Baccarin says. "I didn't really try to become an actor but sort of fell into it. I did it in high school and thought it would just be a way to enjoy school but somewhere along the way, I fell in love with it. Once I started acting, there was never any doubt of what I wanted to do."

'Old Town Road' sets more Billboard chart records

Associated Press

Lil Nas X is galloping his way to two new records on the Billboard charts thanks to the massive success of "Old Town Road."

The song that beat Mariah Carey and "Despacito" to become the longest-running No. 1 hit in the history of the Hot 100 has now set records on Billboard's Hot R&B/Hip-Hop songs and Hot rap songs charts, respectively.

"Old Town Road," which features Billy Ray Cyrus and is spending its 19th week at No. 1, surpasses the record set by Drake's "One Dance" on the Hot R&B/Hip-Hop songs chart. Drake's track spent 18 weeks at No. 1.

On the Hot rap songs chart, where Lil Nas X's county-rap tune is also spending its 19th week on top, the 20-year-old beats the record set by Drake's "Hotline Bling," Iggy Azalea's "Fancy" and Missy Elliott's "Hot Boyz,"

which all spent 18 weeks at No. 1.

Last month, Lil Nas X's viral song became the most successful No. 1 song of all-time when it reached its 17th week at No. 1 on the all-genre Hot 100 — Billboard's main chart for singles — surpassing the 16-week record held by Carey and Boyz II Men's "One Sweet Day" and Luis Fonsi, Daddy Yankee and Justin Bieber's "Despacito."

Other news

■ **Missy Elliott**, one of the most iconic artists in the history of music videos, will receive the Michael Jackson Video Vanguard Award at the 2019 MTV Video Music Awards. MTV announced Monday that Elliott also will perform on Aug. 26 at the Prudential Center in Newark, N.J. Since her debut video for "The Rain (Supa Dupa Fly)" in 1997, in which she

sported an inflated trash bag with confidence and charisma, Elliott has been a powerhouse on the video scene with an oddball, eccentric and creative style that's inspired generations after her. Her performance on the VMA stage will mark her first since 2003. This year, Elliott became the first female rapper inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

■ **Kenya Barris**, the creator of the sitcom "black-ish," has filed for divorce from his wife of 20 years, Dr. Rania "Rainbow" Barris. Los Angeles Superior Court documents show that Kenya Barris filed to end the marriage on Friday, his 45th birthday. Kenya Barris, who also produced the "black-ish" spinoff "grown-ish" and co-wrote the film "Girls Trip," and Rania Barris, an anesthesiologist, married in 1999 and have six kids. Rania Barris previously filed for divorce in 2014, but the couple reconciled and withdrew the request in 2015.



RICHARD SHOTWELL, INVISION/AP

Lil Nas X has set new records on Billboard's Hot R&B/Hip-Hop songs and Hot rap songs charts with "Old Town Road."

Stripes**SERVICE DIRECTORY**

The Daily Guide to Navigating the European Business Market



Dental

902

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OPINION**Data support more checks for young gun buyers**

**BY CASSANDRA CRIFASI,
 HAROLD POLLACK
 AND DANIEL WEBSTER**
Special to The Washington Post

It's naive to think that any single policy or program can prevent every form of gun violence, ranging from intimate partner violence to gang drives by homicides, suicides and mall-rampage atrocities. Yet each form of such violence involves one common mechanism: a gun.

We can reduce these risks through a suite of evidence-based policies that do two things: create more careful licensing for gun purchasers and more effectively regulate teenage and young adult gun buyers.

Better background checks for all sales provide the foundation for any effective gun policy. These measures are most effective when paired with a system that requires purchasers to obtain a license from law enforcement. Most states with purchaser licensing require applicants to submit fingerprints, as people must do when applying for occupational licensing. Fingerprint-based background checks are less likely to miss people who are legally barred from buying guns.

Licensing also creates greater accountability, whereby sellers, both licensed and private, can only sell a gun to someone with a valid license. Many studies have found that purchaser licensing reduces homicide and suicide, as well as the number of guns available in an underground market. Sixty-three percent of current gun owners and 81 percent of non-owners support such requirements.

We should also provide more stringent oversight of young people who wish to buy powerful weapons.

The risk of committing a homicide peaks between the ages of 18 and 24; offending rates do not decline until the mid-to-late-20s. Fully 38 percent of murder offenders with known ages are below age 25. This

is due in part to ongoing development of brain domains that regulate impulses, control, judgment and long-term planning. Yet people in this age range frequently provide little actionable information about their well-being or trustworthiness to medical or law enforcement authorities.

The angry 20-year-old lasher who posts racist or misogynist Roderer manifestos online has not been convicted of any crime. He's been less likely to have been involuntarily committed to a mental institution. From the perspective of an administrative system, he is just another guy who lives alone with his parents, taking classes part time at community college.

Within the past two weeks, young adults used legally purchased firearms to perpetrate several atrocities across the nation. A 21-year-old suspect is charged with killing 22 people in El Paso, Texas, on Aug. 3. A 24-year-old gunman killed nine people in Dayton, Ohio, the next day. Only a week before, a 19-year-old killed four people at California's Gilroy Garlic Festival.

These are just three dramatic examples. They are not typical, but they do underscore gun violence that is occurring among young adults every day in our country. Young adults ages 18 to 24 account for only 9 percent of the population, yet they accounted for 23 percent of all firearm homicide victims in 2017. This increased risk for both perpetration and victimization of gun violence requires us to consider additional oversight of young gun purchasers.

Rental car companies have figured out that young drivers are greater safety risks than their older friends and relatives, and, consequently, implement more rigorous standards before renting out a car. Why not do the same for guns?

We are not suggesting that individuals under age 25 should be barred from buying weapons. But more oversight is warranted. For example, youthful gun purchasers might need to meet higher standards for

gun ownership (e.g., no criminal history at all) and additional safety training. There could be a more rigorous licensing process through law enforcement, such as requirements that parents or others provide supporting references.

Or we could take a lesson from motor vehicle safety and create a graduated licensing system for guns. Graduated driver's licensing has reduced rates of motor vehicle deaths among young drivers by limiting exposure to risky situations that could lead to harm for themselves and others. Of course, exemptions could be extended to those serving in the military or law enforcement.

Our patchwork of state laws makes it far too easy for people who are dangerous to themselves or others to obtain firearms. Coupled with anger and hate, these individuals can cause harm, even when they don't make the news. The problem is particularly clear regarding assault-style weaponry. As long as assault weapons are legal, licensing standards for purchasing these weapons should be higher, including age-based restrictions and oversight. Again, we issue special driver's licenses for 18-wheelers; more powerful guns should face similar requirements.

These solutions can help reduce gun violence without infringing upon lawful gun owners' interests and rights. The American public is crying out for effective action.

No single policy will prevent all mass shootings or eliminate everyday acts of gun violence. That's no reason to be passive. A portfolio of feasible efforts such as these is a great place to start.

Cassandra Crifasi is an assistant professor and deputy director at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice. **Harold Pollack** is Helen Ross Professor of Social Service Administration at the University of Chicago. **Daniel Webster** is Bloomberg Professor of American Health at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School and director of the Johns Hopkins Center for Gun Policy and Research.

Epstein did not deserve the 'allegedly' stories require

BY MONICA HESSE
The Washington Post

The most powerful moment in Larry Nassar's 2017 court proceedings came in the form of his victims' blistering confrontation of the man who had gotten away with so much for so long. Women after women rose in a Michigan courtroom to excoriate the disgraced physician. And as doing so, they wrested power back from Nassar. They guided the public's attention to where it belonged: not on the sniveling mess of a man who sat silently before the judge's bench, but on the promising young athletes who were failed by the system designed to protect them.

Jeffrey Epstein's death by suicide this weekend has an element of finality to it, but not in a redeeming way. Rather, his passing feels like his final escape. From the legal ramifications barreling toward him, yes, but also from the searing visuals he deserved and the country needed.

As his case has unfolded, the photographs accompanying stories about Epstein have been smug and carefree, wealth and privilege personified: There he was, posing at an event with Donald and Melania Trump, long before the former was elected president. There he was, relaxing in a Harvard sweatshirt while chatting with celebrity attorney Alan Dershowitz. Even his mug shots depicted a man secure in the protection that his wealth provided. Captured in harsh jailhouse lighting, he wore polo shirts and pressed button-downs; the right side of his mouth tugging upward in a smirk.

These society-page photographs served a purpose. They reminded us of the factors

that allowed Epstein, for years, to allegedly order up high school-aged girls like room service, forcing them into nude massages and oral sex. When you're wealthy, your jail sentence is more like a jail punctuation mark: In 2008 its brief punishment for procuring underage girls for prostitution allowed him to waltz out of prison for 12 hours a day on "work release."

But what we needed were the images that told the rest of the story: Jeffrey Epstein brought low, by a judicial system that finally held him accountable. Epstein, hollowed out and haggard in a New York courthouse, Epstein, haunted and trapped in his seat as a procession of women talked about the things he'd forced them to do as girls. We needed the images that expressed, fully and undeniably, that this was not a case of lying opportunists trying to ruin a wealthy man, as his attorneys have previous implied, but a case of children who were told they could receive legitimate training to become massage therapists, and instead encountered a man who demanded sex three times a day.

Allegedly, that is — some of this information comes from court records that were unsealed the day before Epstein's death, and because of his death, we must forever talk on "allegedly" to every alleged horror he allegedly committed, from passing girls around to his rich acquaintances to exploring the possibility of impregnating vast numbers of women on his New Mexico ranch in order to genetically improve the human race.

And so he needed to sit in court. He needed to hear woman after woman explain that they weren't having fun; they

were traumatized. He wasn't an eccentric playboy; he was a predator. Nobody wanted his prey.

At a certain point, this argument becomes too easy. The man is dead. The man was bad. There is only so much railing to be done against a bad, dead man, especially when his jailhouse death was entirely preventable, when he'd been on suicide watch just days before.

But we're already moving away from what the story should be about. We're already moving into a land of conspiracy theories, where the president of the United States retweets a baseless, bizarre hypothesis that Bill and Hillary Clinton were responsible for Epstein's death.

Jeffrey Epstein should not be remembered as a man who once lent his private plane to President Bill Clinton. He should not be remembered as a man who socialized with President Donald Trump. The glittery trappings of his fame should be the footnote of his Wikipedia entry. The bulk of it should be the names of every victim — Jennifer Araoz, Virginia Roberts Giuffre, Johanna Sjoberg — detailing all the things he did behind closed doors and with the help of enablers. Allegedly.

He doesn't deserve to be a conspiracy theory. When you do what he allegedly did, you don't deserve to be anything but paralyzed in your courtroom seat, as the world watches you go from powerful to pathetic, as your victims make it clear that your money and connections are incidental, that the girls you hurt were the heroes all along.

Monica Hesse is a columnist for The Washington Post's Style section and author of "American Fire."

BUSINESS/WEATHER

Economy's rapid job growth leaves employees in the dust

BY MICHELLE R. SMITH
Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — Ken White had a good job at a credit card processor for 22 years, but he was laid off in the Great Recession.

Today, at 56, White does similar work. Yet everything feels different. He's a contractor for a technology services firm that assigns him to manage tech projects for a regional bank. He's paid just two-thirds of his old salary. The bonuses and stock awards he once earned are gone.

Despite the U.S. economy's job growth, White and others like him don't feel like beneficiaries of the longest expansion on record. The kinds of jobs they once enjoyed — permanent positions, with bonuses and opportunities to move up — are now rarer.

"It's not as easy as it was," White says.

White's evolution from employee to contractor is emblematic of a trend in the American workplace: The economy keeps growing. Unemployment is at a half-century low. Yet many people feel their jobs have been devalued by employers that increasingly prioritize shareholders and customers.

Economic research, government data and interviews with workers sketch a picture of lagging wages, eroding benefits and demands for employees to do more without more pay. Experts say a confluence of forces are at play: globalization, workplace automation, a decline of labor unions, fiercer price competition and outsourcing.

"We've made decisions and baked into the structure this ex-

treme inequality," said Barbara Dyer of the Good Companies, Good Jobs Initiative at MIT's Sloan School of Management.

A collaborative analysis of the 2018 General Social Survey by the AP-NORC Center and GSS staff finds more people saying work has grown more demanding.

About one in three American workers said they face too much work to do everything well. About one in five held a job other than their main one. About three-quarters had to work extra hours beyond their usual schedule at least once a month. Those numbers are up from 2006.

A Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis analysis found corporate profits have far outpaced employee compensation since the early 2000s.

Paul Nota has worked at CVS in Massachusetts since 2002 in several roles: technician, supervisor, assistant manager. He likes CVS and still works there part time. But he's noticed a change from earlier days, when he felt CVS "thought of the employee first" — with small appreciations like company barbecues.

Those gestures are mainly gone, he said, while the company asks for more.

Nota, 32, juggles helping people in line, answering calls and handling the drive-thru. He said they've been told they could soon be giving flu shots, but notes they won't get extra pay.

"It's all about rapid growth now," he said. "How can you help the bottom line? And that way is not paying your employees much."

CVS spokesman Mike DeAngelis said the company has made workflows more efficient with tools such as new phone technology. CVS last year raised minimum starting pay to \$11 an hour and stepped up pay raises. DeAngelis said turnover among pharmacists technicians has declined.

Another trend that has disrupted life for some workers is when companies outsource jobs not central to their business.

Companies looking "to get out of the messy job of employing people" shed janitors, security guards or tech support, said David Weil, dean of the Heller School of Social Policy and Management at Brandeis University and a former Obama administration official.

Weil's 2014 book "The Fissured Workplace" documented how companies hire outside firms to do work formerly done in-house. These companies hire people at lower pay with fewer benefits and job protections and in some cases outsource work to still other companies. Sometimes, workers are hired as contractors, who are technically self-employed even though they report to the same workplace.

Hotel brands such as Marriott, Hyatt and Hilton now operate this way. Uber and Instacart are other examples. So are universities that increasingly rely on adjunct professors and distribution centers that use independent contractors.

Experts say there's no definitive data on how many Americans have these kinds of jobs, only that they're increasingly common.

Ruth Milkman, a City University of New York labor sociologist, said people most affected used to



STEVEN SENNE/AP

Ken White, of Providence, R.I., was laid off from his job in 2009. He now makes 70 percent of his old salary as a contract worker with a consulting firm.

be blue collar workers but fissuring has crept up the income scale into tech jobs and others that require college degrees.

Deunionization has also eroded workers' influence, she said. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics finds the proportion of wage and salary workers in unions was just 10.5% in 2018, down from 20.1% in 1983.

Beginning in the 1970s, experts said, more public companies began to make shareholders their top priority.

Workers since then have been "devalued as stakeholders," said Adam Seth Litwin, associate professor at Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations.

EXCHANGE RATES

	Military rates
Euro costs (Aug. 14)	\$1,1514
Dollar buys (Aug. 14)	€0.8685
British pound (Aug. 14)	¥12.24
Japanese yen (Aug. 14)	103.00
South Korean won (Aug. 14)	1,188.00

	Commercial rates
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3769
British pound	\$1.2086
Canada (Dollar)	1.3226
China (Yuan)	0.1552
Denmark (Krone)	6.6729
Egypt (Pound)	16.5858
Finland (Markka)	\$1.1184/0.941
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8462
Hungary (Forint)	289.23
Iceland (Króna)	3.4617
Japan (Yen)	106.56
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.3040
Norway (Krone)	8.8955
Poland (Złoty)	52.25
Poland (Złoty)	3.87
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7481
Switzerland (Franc)	1.1830
South Korea (Won)	1,213.02
Thailand (Baht)	0.9726
Turkey (Lira)	.3079
Vietnam (Dong)	5.5835

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities. Commercial rates are for Netherland, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For example, the commercial rate for purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are bank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies versus the U.S. dollar, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.25
Discount rate	2.75
Federal funds market rate	2.12
3-month bill	1.95
30-year bond	2.13

MARKET WATCH

Aug. 12, 2019

Dow Jones industrials	-\$391.00
	25,896.44
Nasdaq composite	-95.73
	7,863.41
Standard & Poor's 500	-35.56
	2,883.00
Russell 2000	-18.58
	1,494.46

WEATHER OUTLOOK

WEDNESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



WEDNESDAY IN EUROPE



THURSDAY IN THE PACIFIC

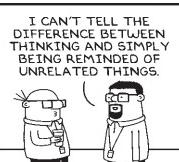


The weather is provided by the American Forces Network Weather Center, 2nd Weather Squadron at Offutt Air Force Base, Neb.

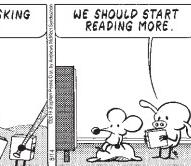
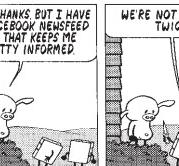
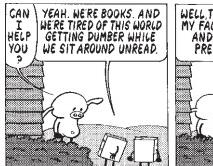
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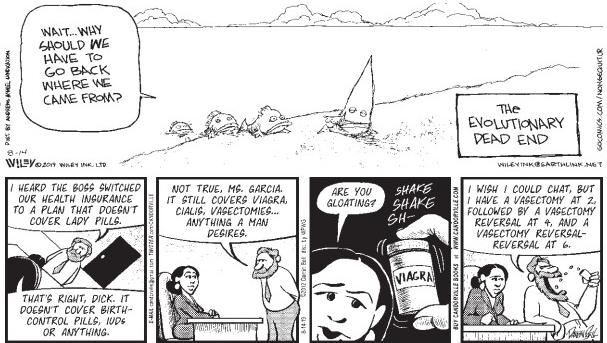
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Pearls Before Swine

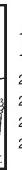
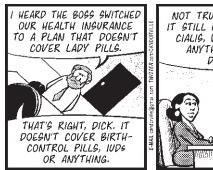


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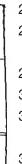
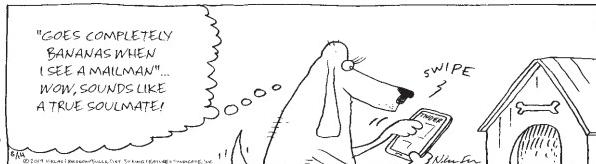


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EVOLUTIONARY
DEAD END

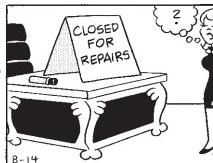
Candorville



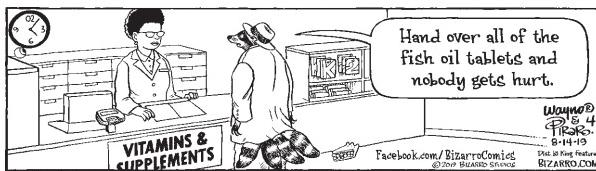
Carpe Diem



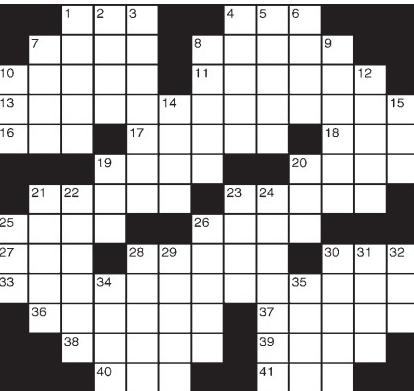
Beetle Bailey



Bizarro



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



ACROSS

- 1 Young bloke
- 4 Score units (Abbr.)
- 5 Pottery oven
- 8 Magna —
- 10 Pago Pago's place
- 11 Whoever
- 13 Boisterous quarrel
- 16 ICU pros
- 17 Beethoven's "Für —"
- 18 Privy
- 19 "Hey, you!"
- 20 Hide
- 21 Actress Garbo
- 23 Blazing
- 25 Dutch word that means "farmer"
- 26 Curved molding
- 27 Wagerers' site (Abbr.)
- 28 Plus
- 30 Early hrs.
- 33 Skeptic's question
- 36 Lady Liberty, e.g.
- 37 Snag
- 38 Kagan of the Supreme Court

Answer to Previous Puzzle

C	A	P	P	E	A	U	A	L	V	A
O	B	O	E	V	W	S	L	A	I	D
D	E	C	O	E	L	E	G	A	N	C
E	L	O	P	E	R	S	A	R	K	I
L	A	P	E	R	A	T	H	M	A	R
F	I	L	E	T	E	L	Y	A	R	M
E	L	I	E	T	E	L	Y	A	R	M
E	L	U	D	I	G	S	A	S	U	C
A	A	S	E	E	N					
P	S	A	L	M	E	L	A	I	N	E
E	L	I	T	I	S	T	S	M	A	L
R	E	D	O	A	R	I	A	N	K	A
E	D	E	N	W	E	E	L	A	S	T

8-14

CRYPTOQUIP

X M C R I S O G P H R O H Y J O I P J

P G I R H F M O M Q H J R T W W I P J T

E T M Y I U C Y T F H U S W E I J Z

X M Y Z R : O P I - R P T J , T Y M Q I J T .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN COUNTRY SINGING CELEBRITY ROY ATTENDED BLACK-TIE AFFAIRS, DID HE WEAR ACUFF-LINKS?

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: P equals W

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1.	Brooks Koepka	USA	127
2.	Dustin Johnson	USA	128
3.	Rory McIlroy	NIR	870
4.	Jordan Rose	ENG	814
5.	Jon Rahm	ESP	792
6.	Tiger Woods	USA	780
7.	Francesco Molinari	ITA	635
8.	Brooks Koepka	USA	630
9.	Patrick Cantlay	USA	610
10.	Jordan Thomas	USA	598
11.	Xander Schauffele	USA	574
12.	Webb Simpson	USA	548
13.	Tony Finau	USA	545
14.	Patrick Reed	USA	521
15.	Adam Scott	AUS	513
16.	Erik Compton	USA	508
17.	Shane Lowry	IRL	488
18.	Paul Casey	ENG	483
19.	Tommy Fleetwood	ENG	478
20.	Louis Oosthuizen	SAF	402
21.	Marc Leishman	ENG	396
22.	Matt Wallace	ENG	364
23.	Chez Reavie	USA	346
24.	Adam Hadwin	CDN	343
25.	Kevin Kisner	USA	344
26.	Ian Poulter	ENG	318
27.	Hideki Matsuyama	JPN	310
28.	Billy Horschel	USA	308
29.	Keegan Bradley	USA	304
30.	Phil Mickelson	USA	304
31.	Rafa Cabrera Bello	ESP	298
32.	Abraham Ancer	MEX	293
33.	Jordan Spieth	USA	289
34.	Eddie Pepperell	ENG	289
35.	Bernd Wiesberger	AUT	288
36.	Andrew Putnam	USA	278
37.	Cameron Smith	AUS	278
38.	Brandt Snedeker	USA	270
39.	Jim Furyk	USA	257
40.	Byeong Hun An	KOR	254

PGA Tour FedEx Cup leaders

Through Aug. 11

	Points	Money
1.	Brooks Koepka	\$69,105.150
2.	Rory McIlroy	3,715,673.119
3.	Matt Kuchar	1,735,426.000
4.	Xander Schauffele	1,585,497,346
5.	Patrick Reed	1,563,124.000
6.	Patrick Cantlay	1,730,426.000
7.	Dustin Johnson	1,696,513,991
8.	Jordan Spieth	1,696,513,991
9.	Webb Simpson	1,619,461,716
10.	Jon Rahm	1,447,458,610
11.	Adam Scott	1,447,458,610
12.	Marc Leishman	1,415,277,467
13.	Rickie Fowler	1,391,374,710
14.	Charley Hoffman	1,379,298,450
15.	Charles Howell III	1,279,298,450
16.	Tony Finau	1,279,390,380
17.	Jordan Spieth	1,203,316,267
18.	B. DeChambeau	1,203,316,267
19.	Tommy Fleetwood	1,193,667,551
20.	Shane Lowry	1,174,325,488
21.	Adam Scott	1,124,382,552
22.	Kevin Kisner	1,098,230,144
23.	Jordan Spieth	1,098,230,144
24.	Ryan Palmer	1,088,247,358
25.	Francesco Molinari	1,054,447,070
26.	Tommy Fleetwood	1,051,231,915
27.	J.T. Poston	1,023,231,915
28.	Tiger Woods	1,003,158,915
29.	Jordan Spieth	969,276,137
30.	Hideki Matsuyama	969,276,137
31.	Cory Conners	962,623,552
32.	Phil Mickelson	903,238,411
33.	Brandt Snedeker	900,130,749
34.	C.T. Pennington	899,307,449
35.	Rory Sabbatini	895,320,612
36.	Andrew Putnam	873,408,612
37.	Kevin Tway	865,264,931
38.	David Lingmerth	863,203,950
39.	David Lashley	835,210,600
40.	Si Woo Kim	825,126,133
41.	Jason Kokrak	774,186,224
42.	Shane Lowry	774,186,224
43.	J.B. Holmes	715,127,825
44.	Kevin Na	815,257,309
45.	Jordan Spieth	774,451,734
46.	Patrick Reed	754,234,083
47.	Louis Oosthuizen	753,234,083
48.	Dylan Frittelli	753,155,403
49.	Graeme McDowell	779,125,896
50.	Bill Haas	754,126,133
51.	Joel Dahmen	716,187,102
52.	Byeong Hun An	710,192,656
53.	Jordan Spieth	709,192,656
54.	Rafa Cabrera Bello	696,190,723
55.	Ian Poulter	690,128,065
56.	Ryan Moore	690,179,088
57.	Caughlin Champ	681,157,910
58.	Greg Chisholm	639,147,000
59.	Sergio Garcia	713,937,022

Tennis

Western & Southern Open

A U.S. Open Series event

At The Lindner Family Tennis Center
Mason, Ohio

Purse: \$10.5 million (Masters
1000); WTA: \$1.5 million (Premier)

Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Men

Fri Round

Rodrigo Alves, Portugal, def. Marin Cilic
(14), Croatia, 6-4, 7-6 (6).

Adrian Mannarino, France, def. Cristian Garin, Chile, 6-3, 6-4.

Miomir Kecmanovic, Serbia, def. Felix

Auger-Aliassime, Canada, 6-3, 6-3.

Diego Schwartzman, Argentina, def. Denis Kudla, United States, 6-3, 7-6 (6).

Yoshito Nishioka, Japan, def. Jordan Thompson, Australia, 6-3, 6-4.

Richard Gasquet, France, def. Andy

Murray, Britain, 6-4, 6-4.

John Isner, United States, def.

Herve Puech, Herbert, France, 7-6 (2),

7-6 (1).

Juan Ignacio Londero, Argentina, def.

Matteo Berrettini, Italy, 7-6 (3), 6-3.

Gulbis, Latvia, def. Casper Ruud, Norway, 6-3, 6-4.

Jan-Lennard Struff, Germany, def. Ivan

Karakas, Croatia, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (4).

Publitz, Poland, def. Gilles

Simon, France, 7-5, 6-3.

Nick Kyrgios, Austria, def. Lorenzo Sonego, Italy, 6-3, 6-4.

Juan Ignacio Londero, Argentina, def.

Matteo Berrettini, Italy, 7-6 (3), 6-3.

Rogerio Dutra Silva, Brazil, 6-4, 6-4.

Diego Schwartzman, Argentina, def.

Yannick Hanfmann, Germany, 6-3, 6-4.

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Diego Schwartzman, Argentina, def.

MLB



PHOTOS BY FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

The Yankees' Gleyber Torres celebrates with teammates after he scored on a three-run triple by Brett Gardner during the first inning of the second game of Monday's doubleheader against the Baltimore Orioles in New York. Torres hit three home runs in the two games.

Torres torments Orioles as Yankees take 2 games

BY RONALD BLUM
Associated Press

NEW YORK — Gleyber Torres walked to the plate in the eighth inning with runners on first and second, two outs and the Yankees ahead by five runs.

Baltimore called for an intentional walk, and who could blame the Orioles?

Torres hit three of New York's seven home runs in an 8-5, 11-8 doubleheader sweep Monday, including three-run drives in the fifth and sixth innings of the night game. Torres has 13 of New York's record 59 long balls against Baltimore this season, a big reason the Yankees have 14 consecutive wins versus the Orioles.

"I take all the opportunities they give and then just do damage," Torres said.

Gio Urshela had six hits in the twinbill, including a 461-foot homer in the opener, and raised his average to .332 with 18 homers and 63 RBIs.

AL East-leading New York has five doubleheader sweeps to go along with one split. The Yankees improved to 15-2 against Baltimore with two games left, winning 12 of their past 14 overall and moving a season-high 38 games over .500 at 79-41.

Torres set a big league record with his fifth multihomer game against a team in a season, breaking it with Ralph Kiner (1947), Gus Zernial (1951) and Roy Sievers (1955). His 26 homers are two more than his total as a rookie last year, and the 13 against Baltimore matched Roger Maris' 1961 against Cleveland for the second-most against one team in a season for the Yankees, one behind Lou Gehrig's total in 1936 versus Cleveland.

"I just kind of had enough," Orioles manager Brandon Hyde said of the walk, which was followed by Brett Gardner's groundout. "We're making him look like a first-ball Hall of Famer."

Didi Gregorius hit a three-run homer in the first inning of the day game and had four RBIs. Urshela, Torres and Cameron Maybin added solo shots, all off Gabriel Ynoa (1-7).

Gardner hit a three-run triple off Ty Blach (0-1) in the opening inning of the night game. Mike Ford had a solo home run and Torres homered off Evan Phillips and Tom Eshelman to make it 11-3.

James Paxton (8-6) started the opener and won a



The Yankees' Didi Gregorius follows through on a three-run home run during the first game.

third straight start for the first time since his streak of seven for Seattle from 2017. The injury-decimated Yankees brought in some fresh arms in the night game, when 27-year-old left-hander Joe Mantiply (1-0) got his first big league win in his Yankees debut.

Purchased from Cincinnati on Friday for \$1, Mantiply relieved with one out in the second and allowed three runs over three innings in his return to the major leagues from Tommy John surgery in March 2018. Mantiply's only previous appearances were five relief outings for Detroit in September 2016, and he wondered whether he would make it back.

Bichette had the first four

Roundup

Indians take over first in AL Central

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — Carlos Santana homered leading off the ninth inning to send the Cleveland Indians to a 6-5 win over the fast-fading Boston Red Sox on Monday night and back into first place in the AL Central.

After the Red Sox tied it in the top of the inning, Santana connected on a 2-2 pitch from Marcus Walden (7-2), driving it barely over the wall in left to give the Indians their biggest win this season.

The Indians moved past the idle Minnesota Twins and are alone in first for the first time since April 19.

Jose Ramirez hit a three-run homer and Franniel Reyes had a two-run shot as the Indians improved to an MLB-best 43-17 since June 4, when they trailed the Twins by 10½ games.

Down 5-1 after three innings, the Red Sox chipped away and finally tied it in the ninth on a two-out double by Xander Bogaerts off Indians closer Brad Hand (6-3).

But Santana bailed him out and added a new chapter to his own comeback season with Cleveland. J.D. Martinez and Jackie Bradley Jr. homered, but Boston lost for the 12th time in 15 games. The defending World Series champions came in trailing the New York Yankees by 16 games in the AL East and 7½ back in the wild-card race.

Nationals 7, Reds 6: Trea Turner and Matt Adams homered, Erick Fedde pitched well after allowing a solo shot on the game's first pitch and depleted Washington held on to edge visiting Cincinnati.

Washington led 7-2 but blew most of that advantage before Sean Doolittle got his 27th save in 32 chances. He entered in the ninth with a 7-4 lead, but the struggling lefty closer's first pitch of the evening became Phillip Ervin's pinch-hit Homer. The next batter singled and came around on Joey Votto's two-out double off the wall in left. Doolittle finally ended things on Josh VanMeter's foul pop to third baseman Anthony Rendon.

The Nationals opened a six-game homestand without three-time Cy Young Award winner Max Scherzer, left fielder Juan Soto or first baseman Ryan Zimmerman — all injured — while second baseman Brian Dozier was ill and limited to pinch-hitting duty.

Blue Jays 19, Rangers 4: Brandon Drury hit his first career grand slam, Justin Smoak had a solo homer among his three extra-base hits, and host Toronto routed Texas.

Bo Bichette had the first four



TONY DEJAK/AP

The Indians' Carlos Santana celebrates after hitting a game-winning solo home run in the ninth inning Monday against the Boston Red Sox in Cleveland.

Smoak and Grichuk each had four. Danny Jansen had a two-run homer.

Diamondbacks 8, Rockies 6: Jake Lamb, Nick Ahmed and Carson Kelly homered during a four-run fifth inning and visiting Arizona beat Colorado.

Over the course of 13 pitches, Arizona went from trailing 6-3 to leading 7-6. Lamb started the comeback with a solo shot off reliever Jake McGee. Ahmed later hit a two-run homer and Kierfay followed with a solo shot off Chad Bettis (1-6).

It was the Diamondbacks' 27th

comeback win of the season and keeps them in the thick of the wild-card chase.

Pirates 10, Angels 2: Mitch Keller (1-1) earned his first major league victory, Jacob Stallings had a homer and a two-run double, and visiting Pittsburgh snapped its eight-game losing streak with a victory over Los Angeles.

Kevin Newman, Josh Bell and Bryan Reynolds also homered for the Pirates, who won for just the third time in 21 games and only the fifth time since the All-Star break. Pittsburgh jumped to an early 6-0 lead on Jose Suarez (2-4) and the road-weary Angels, who played in Boston on Sunday.

Keller came up from the minors to make his fourth big league start and pitched five hits, two walks and just one earned run over five innings, striking out four and pitching out of late jams.

Rays 10, Padres 4: Avisail Garcia had a two-run home run among his three hits and Matt Duffy had four hits and three RBIs for Tampa Bay in its first game in San Diego since 2004.

The Rays won their fourth game in a row overall and their eighth straight on the road.

Joey Lucchesi (7-7) took the loss. He allowed three runs and five hits in 4½ innings, struck out six and walked three.

MLB SCOREBOARD

American League

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	79	41	.658	9
Tampa Bay	70	50	.583	—
Boston	62	59	.510	17½
Toronto	59	62	.488	18½
Baltimore	59	60	.328	39½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	72	47	.605	—
Minnesota	67	54	.564	—
Chicago	67	54	.564	18½
Kansas City	43	76	.361	—
Detroit	39	80	.304	35

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	77	41	.653	—
Oakland	67	51	.568	10
Texas	59	59	.508	10
Los Angeles	58	62	.503	—
Seattle	48	71	.403	29½

National League

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	63	50	.583	6
Washington	63	55	.534	6
New York	61	57	.504	18½
Philadelphia	57	61	.508	—
Miami	44	73	.376	24½

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	64	54	.542	—
St. Louis	57	61	.494	—
Milwaukee	62	57	.521	2½
Cincinnati	56	61	.479	7½
Pittsburgh	55	61	.415	15

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston at Chicago	White Sox	ppd.		
N.Y. Yankees	8	Baltimore	.51st game	
N.Y. Yankees	8	11	Baltimore	8, 2nd game
Toronto	19	Texas	4	
Cleveland	6	Boston	5	
Pittsburgh	10, L.A.	Angels	2	
Tampa Bay	10	4	7	
Washington	7	11	Cincinnati	6
Arizona	6	6	.445	24

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Toronto	19	Texas	4	
Cleveland	6	Boston	5	
Pittsburgh	10, L.A.	Angels	2	
Tampa Bay	10	4	7	
Washington	7	11	Cincinnati	6
Arizona	6	6	.445	24

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston at Chicago	White Sox	ppd.		
N.Y. Yankees	8	Baltimore	.51st game	
N.Y. Yankees	8	11	Baltimore	8, 2nd game
Toronto	19	Texas	4	
Cleveland	6	Boston	5	
Pittsburgh	10, L.A.	Angels	2	
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Houston at Chicago	White Sox	ppd.		
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N.Y. Yankees	8	11	Baltimore	8, 2nd game
Toronto	19	Texas	4</td	

MLB/NBA



JIM MONE/AP

Twins pitcher Taylor Rogers heads to the dugout after he was pulled during the 10th inning after giving up a grand slam to the Indians' Carlos Santana on Sunday.

Even-keeled Twins trying to stay that way in a tight race

By DAVE CAMPBELL
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — The home clubhouse in Minnesota was silent after the final game of the series was lost to Cleveland in distressing fashion, a fifth defeat in the last seven contests for the Twins that let the surging Indians create another tie for the division lead.

As players packed for a road trip, minus the usual upbeat music blaring in the background, the mood in the room was hardly somber or tense. Even having the would-be-winning run get thrown out at the plate in the ninth inning and the team's top relief pitcher give up a grand slam in the 10th did not qualify as a devastating development amid the 162-game grind of baseball.

Particularly not under the supervision of rookie manager Rocco Baldelli, whose perpetually relaxed and upbeat demeanor has had more of an influence on these Twins in his first year than any strategic decision or lineup change.

"We're in a pretty good frame of mind," Baldelli said following a 7-3 loss Sunday to the Indians. "You're going to go through runs where you're playing good teams. You're going to go through runs where you're playing well, winning some games but losing some games that you think you should win. We play so many games here and our guys give a tremendous effort every single night when we're out there that there's really nothing more you can ask for. We have a very stable clubhouse, which we're very fortunate for. We have a lot of guys who show up every day the same way, regardless of whether we win or lose."

Perhaps part of the even-keeled

approach can be traced to expectations. The pressure has been on the three-time defending AL Central champion Indians, who were one game away from winning it all in 2016, to make it back to the World Series before the window closes for their current core group of players.

The Twins, even if designated hitter Nelson Cruz is 39 and three of their starting pitchers are eligible for free agency this fall, surprised even a significant faction of their own organization by taking a lead that ballooned to 11½ games on June 3. They're built largely around players just entering their primes, like closer Taylor Rogers, whose ERA hit a season-worst 2.68 after Carlos Santana took him deep with the bases loaded.

"If it was a sprint, Cleveland would have had a bad year when they didn't start so hot. It's a marathon," Rogers said, "and this group will keep doing what it has been doing, and we will see what happens at the end."

The Twins had a break Monday, when the Indians beat Boston 6-5 to take a half-game lead for sole possession of first place for the first time since April 19.

Better news for the Twins came earlier in the day: An exam of Cruz's left wrist by a specialist in New York found no damage beyond the initially diagnosed ruptured tendon. Cruz will avoid surgery and resume a hitting program upon joining the team Tuesday in Milwaukee. He is eligible to return from the injured list Aug. 19.

"We've done it many, many times before," Baldelli said. "No reason to believe anything is going to change. Our guys, they'll be out there Tuesday ready to go."

A break for players, fans

Some NBA tip-offs for TV will be earlier, back-to-backs down again

By TIM REYNOLDS
Associated Press

The NBA schedule is a little bit easier on players.

Fans might be catching a break — and some more sleep — as well.

The league announced its 2019-20 schedule on Monday, featuring another dip in back-to-back games for teams and a major change in the number of nationally televised games starting at 10:30 p.m. on the East coast. Golden State and the Los Angeles Lakers will start several games a half-hour earlier than usual, while broadcasters ESPN and Turner are going to earlier start times on many of their midweek doubleheader nights.

Such a change has been on NBA Commissioner Adam Silver's mind for some time, especially since roughly half of the nation's television homes are in the East time zone — but now, a number of the league's biggest stars play on the West coast. It wasn't uncommon for nationally televised midweek games to end around 1 a.m. or even later last season, and that was not good for ratings.

"It's something that I think we have to address," Silver said in May.

And changes are definitely coming.

ESPN's Wednesday doubleheaders — mostly at 8 and 10:30 p.m. last season — will begin at either 7 or 7:30 p.m., followed by a second game at either 9:30 p.m. or 10 p.m. in the East. TNT had nine Tuesday doubleheaders last season with the second game starting at 10:30; this season that number is down to two.

In all, there were 57 games on national television starting at 10:30 p.m. last season. That number falls to 33 this season, a dip of 42 percent.

Meanwhile, players might be



BEN MARGOT/AP

Warriors coach Steve Kerr speaks at a news conference after Game 3 of the NBA Finals against the Toronto Raptors in June.

getting a touch more rest this season as well. For the fifth straight year, the NBA has found a way to lower the average number of times a team has to play on consecutive days. The league average is 12.4 back-to-backs this season, down from 13.3 last year and 36 percent down from the average of 19.3 five years ago.

The regular season ends with 13 games on April 15. The playoffs start April 18.

Other highlights from the 2019-20 schedule:

Opening night

Toronto will get its rings on Oct. 22, when it plays host to New Orleans and No. 1 overall pick Zion Williamson. The Lakers — now featuring Anthony Davis to play alongside LeBron James — will play at the Clippers — now featuring Kawhi Leonard and Paul George — in the second half of that doubleheader, and that will be one of the 10:30 p.m. Eastern nationally televised midweek games that will otherwise be

Early list of NBA games to watch

Associated Press

The NBA released its upcoming schedule Monday and here's some rematches, homecomings and other games to watch during this 2019-20 NBA season:

Finals rematches: Toronto at Golden State, March 5; Golden State at Toronto, March 16.

It may be a while for the Raptors and Warriors to get back together and recreate — sort of — the 2019 NBA Finals. The Raptors won't have Kawhi Leonard or Danny Green, the Warriors won't have Kevin Durant, Shaun Livingston or Andre Iguodala. But since these games aren't until March, there's a reasonable chance that Klay Thompson will be recovered from his ACL tear and back on the floor by then.

Where's Kawhi? Toronto at L.A. Clippers, Nov. 11; L.A. Clippers at Toronto, Dec. 11.

The Raptors will reunite with the 2019 NBA Finals MVP relatively early this season, and it's likely that Leonard and Green will get their championship rings — along with one last well-deserved round of applause from the Raptors' faithful during the December trip to Toronto.

Lakers-Clippers rivalry: The battle for L.A. this season could be the battle for the top spot in the Western Conference. They'll play on opening night, Oct. 22; Christmas, Jan. 28 and then in an noon-matinee matchup on March 4.

MVP Showdown: NBA MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo and the Milwaukee Bucks face now-former MVP James Harden and the Houston Rockets on Oct. 24 — in Houston, the season-opener for both teams. They won't play again until March 25 in Milwaukee.

Russell Westbrook-Thunder:

The Houston guard will face Oklahoma City as an opponent for the first time on Oct. 28, and travel to OKC for the first time on Jan. 9.

Anthony Davis-Pelicans: Now with the Los Angeles Lakers, Davis will see his former team for the first time when he travels to New Orleans on Nov. 27.

Kyrie Irving-Celtics: Nov. 27 will also be a big night for Brooklyn's new point guard, since that's when he'll return to Boston for the first time as an opponent since leaving the Celtics.

Kemba Walker-Hornets: He returns to Charlotte for the first time on Nov. 7, when Boston visits the Hornets.

Jimmy Butler-Sixers: The Heat forward will have a whole slew of reunions this year, including Oct. 27 when Miami goes to Minnesota and on Nov. 23 when the Heat visit Philadelphia.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

NC State seeks next top WR target

By AARON BEARD
Associated Press

RALEIGH, N.C. — North Carolina State needs to find its next go-to receiving threat.

The Wolfpack lost top receivers Kelvin Harmon and Jakobi Meyers — both ranked among the Atlantic Coast Conference's leaders in multiple categories — to the NFL. Now Dave Doeren's squad is looking at whether Emeka Emezie and the rest of the supporting cast are ready to handle those vacant leading roles.

"You're taking two guys out of the offense who each had 80-plus balls and 1,000-plus-yard seasons," redshirt sophomore receiver Thayer Thomas said Sunday during the team's preseason media day. "Those have got to go somewhere.... [Receivers coach George McDonald] is expecting us to take on a lot, but I think we're all ready for it."

N.C. State certainly needs the receivers to be ready considering all the offensive changes for the Aug. 31 opener against East Carolina.

Quarterback Ryan Finley is in the NFL after three years as a starter, leaving an uncertain position battle through pre-season camp. Top rusher Reggie Gallappa (1,091 yards and 18 touchdowns) is also gone, while offensive coordinator Eli Drinkwitz left to become the head coach at Appalachian State.

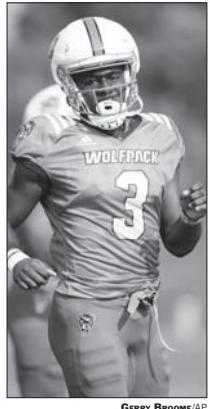
The departures of Harmon and Meyers have left a huge hole, too.

They were big receivers who presented challenges all over the field. Harmon did his best work making tough contested catches, while Meyers took a major step from converted quarterback to bona fide receiver with a knack for getting open.

Harmon had 81 catches for 1,186 yards and seven touchdowns to lead the ACC in receiving yards per game (98.8), including a monster performance of 11 catches for 247 yards and two scores in a road loss at 10-win Syracuse. Meyers had 92 catches for 1,047 yards and four scores while leading the ACC in receptions per game (7.67).

Between them, they had the three highest catch totals for any ACC team last year: Harmon's 15 catches against Wake Forest, followed by Meyers' 14 catches against James Madison and 13 against East Carolina.

The most likely candidate to take the lead is Emezie, a 6-foot-3,



GERRY BROOME/AP

North Carolina State wide receiver Emeka Emezie is the most likely candidate to replace the production of receivers Kelvin Harmon and Jakobi Meyers, both of whom are in the NFL.

21-pound junior who had some strong games of his own as the team's No. 3 target while finishing with 616 yards receiving. He's even switched from jersey No. 86 to take Harmon's No. 3 this year.

"I just tried to take different parts of their games," Emezie said. "I'm still trying to take different parts of their games. I'm watching their film always. It just pays off: I see it on the field, I see it in practice, I see it in games."

Doeren praised Emezie's willingness to learn from Harmon and Meyers last year, and said Sunday he's shaken off an introverted nature to take a more outspoken leadership role among the receivers.

"I'm proud of him," Doeren said. "Standing up in front of a group and talking is something that he would never have done two years ago.... I think he's (at) a lot different place mentally right now, where he can do that. The players look up to him. They really do, because of how hard he works and how serious it is to him."

Behind Emezie is Thomas (34 catches for 383 yards and three touchdowns), redshirt junior C.J. Riley (28 catches for 315 yards and two touchdowns) and graduate transfer Tabari Hines — who had played previously at Oregon and Wake Forest.

N.C. State will need all of them, too, to replace what was lost.

"It definitely shows us the blueprint of how to be successful here," Riley said of Harmon and Meyers. "We watched them work, we watched them play.... We've just got to follow their steps."

"We watched them work, we watched them play. ... We've just got to follow their steps."

C.J. Riley

NC State WR on graduated players Kelvin Harmon and Jakobi Meyers

Landers shines light on mental health struggles

Ohio State DL hopes being up front about issue will help others

By MITCH STACY
Associated Press

O HIO STATE defensive tackle Robert Landers struggles with mental illness, and he doesn't care who knows it.

In fact, he wants more people to be aware of it. The mass shooting in his hometown of Dayton, Ohio, rattled him enough that he decided it was time to speak out.

The gregarious senior known as "BB" said he has suffered bouts of anxiety and depression since his father was shot to death and he was forced to become the man of the house at age 10. It wasn't until he got to Ohio State that he was mature enough to recognize what was happening and to stop regarding it as a weakness.

"God has continued to bless me and put me in certain positions, but it's still an uphill battle on a day-to-day basis," Landers said in a video he tweeted after the Dayton shootings. The video, in which he also offers condolences to the victims' families, has been viewed more than 130,000 times.

For the 22-year-old Landers, the shooting came close to home.

His brother Trey, a University of Dayton basketball player, and three of their cousins were in an Oregon District bar in the early morning hours of Aug. 3 when the shooting started right outside Landers' family members were unharmed.

Given his past, Landers said he understands survivors and others may have mental health issues to contend with in the aftermath.

"It all, to me, circles back to mental health," he said in the video. "You got so many people in the world today struggling with this disease that a lot of people don't want to talk about it. It's a real thing; it really does affect people in a negative way, and a lot of people don't know how to handle it."

It's not typical for a 6-foot-1, 285-pound battering ram of a nose tackle to talk about his innermost feelings, fears and weaknesses. That's exactly the point. He hopes airing his struggles will take away some of the stigma and more people who need it will seek help.

"I felt like it was a good time to use my platform and just speak out about it and express how I feel about and pay my condolences to those people," Landers said.

Landers' revelations come at a time that major college football programs have been forced to recognize and confront mental health issues, including how college athletes are holding up under the strain of a challenging academic workload, the pressure of expectations and living public lives via social media.



MARVIN FONG, THE Plain Dealer/AP

Ohio State defensive lineman Robert Landers (67) celebrates a sack last season. Landers struggles with mental illness, and he doesn't care who knows it. In fact, he wants more people to know it. He took to Twitter in the aftermath of the mass shooting in his hometown of Dayton to make his struggle public.

His coach, Ryan Day, feels so strongly about the issue that he and his wife sponsor a charity for pediatric and adolescent mental wellness at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus. It's personal for Day, too, who was 9 when his own father killed himself.

Day said Ohio State also has added to its counseling staff this year for players who need someone to talk to.

"They understand that we're here, (and) there's no stigma attached to asking for help," Day said. "It's one of those things we have to make sure there is no stigma attached to it. I think our guys are hearing the message, and I'm proud of BB for standing up."

More schools are now being proactive about watching players closely and trying to help. For instance, the Pac-12 has committed around \$3.5 million per year in research grants for projects to improve the health, general well-being, and safety of student-athletes.

"I said this 10 years ago in a meeting one time in the ACC, and people said, well, they kind of laughed," Texas A&M coach Jimbo Fisher said.

"I said, listen, guys, mental health is a huge part of what's going on right now," he said. "When you're 18, 20 years old, the kids — the things they're facing is a hundred times greater than we ever did when we were coming up because of (the media) and the social media and the accessibility and the expectations. It's crazy what these kids go through, and it's a shame sometimes."

Florida coach Dan Mullen noted that fans who watch their heroes on Saturday don't think about what's happening in their lives the rest of the week.

"A lot of guys, it's the first time ever being away from home," Mullen said. "You're growing and finding out about yourself, and a lot of these guys are having to do it under a spotlight with a lot of people watching them and critiquing everything they do."

Minnesota coach P.J. Fleck meets with non-football staffers, including mental health specialists, every Monday for feedback on his players.

"They might say something to them that they'll never say to me," Fleck said. "They might see a body language change that I didn't see. They might hear something that was said that I didn't hear. They might know about a girlfriend breakup. They might know about a mom having a sickness that they don't want anybody else to know for some particular reason."

For Ohio State's Landers, the grind of football practice with his teammates serves as a release, a chance to put aside all the pressures and the dark thoughts that sneak in sometimes.

"The best way I've learned to deal with this issue and this disease," he said, "is surrounding myself with the best possible people I could surround myself with."

Associated Press sports writers John Zener in Hoover, Ala., and Ralph Russo in Minneapolis contributed to this report.

TENNIS/SPORTS BRIEFS



PHOTOS BY GARY LANDERS/AP

Britain's Andy Murray, above, hits a forehand volley against France's Richard Gasquet, below, during first-round play Monday at the Western & Southern Open in Mason, Ohio. Gasquet won in straight sets.

Murray loses first match in return to singles play

Associated Press

MASON, Ohio — Andy Murray moved well in his first singles match since January, but not well enough to move on — even to the U.S. Open.

Using a bottomless arsenal of drop shots, Richard Gasquet snapped a five-match losing streak against Murray with a 6-4, 6-4 win in the first round of the Western & Southern Open on Monday.

The singles match was Murray's first since a painful exit from the Australian Open that had him thinking his career might be over. The three-time Grand Slam champion underwent a second hip surgery on Jan. 28, receiving metal implants that helped eliminate the pain that had hobbled him for a long time. Murray played doubles in several tournaments, including Wimbledon with Serena Williams and at Washington with brother Jamie, before deciding to try singles at Cincinnati, where he is a two-time champion.

"I don't really know what I was expecting, to be honest," Murray said. "I think I did OK. I think there was a lot of things I would like to have done better in the match, but, you know, you also have to be somewhat realistic, as well, in terms of what you can expect in terms of how you actually play and hit the ball."

"I think physically, you know, my legs were a little bit heavy at the end of the match in comparison to maybe what they normally would be if you played, you know, a bunch."

The U.S. Open's wild-card timing led Murray to decide against



playing in New York.

"We were hoping to maybe hold a wild card until a little bit closer to the time to see how I feel and get some matches, hopefully, and a bit of practice, but they were announcing the wild cards today and didn't want to wait," he said.

The 32-year-old's rust was evident as he double-faulted on his first serve, but he recovered to last 1 hour, 36 minutes with no apparent health issues.

Top-seeded Novak Djokovic and third-seeded Roger Federer remain in the men's draw. It's the first tournament for both players since their five-set final at Wimbledon, won by Djokovic in a match considered one of the greatest in history.

The other member of the Big Three, Rafael Nadal, withdrew from the Masters event, citing fatigue after he won the Rogers Cup in Montreal on Sunday.

The women's Rogers Cup champion, Canadian Bianca Capu-

drescu, also withdrew from Cincinnati to rest for the U.S. Open. Andreescu won in Toronto after Serena Williams retired with back problems.

Gasquet will play fourth-seed Dominic Thiem in the second round.

Before a standing-room only Granstand Court crowd, including a teen boy waving a red-and-white piñata shaped like a horse, Nick Kyrgios reached the second round with a 7-5, 6-4 win over Lorenzo Sonego. Kyrgios will face eighth-seed Karen Khachanov.

In the women's draw, five-time Grand Slam winner Maria Sharapova moved on to a second-round matchup with top-seeded Ashleigh Barty by knocking off fellow wild card Alison Riske 6-3, 7-6 (4).

Among other men's matches, wild card Sam Querrey earned a second-round berth opposite Djokovic with a 7-6 (2), 7-6 (1) win over Pierre-Hugues Herbert.

Briefly

Lowry withdraws from consideration for World Cup team

Associated Press

Kyle Lowry of the NBA champion Toronto Raptors has withdrawn from the pool of candidates USA Basketball is considering to take to the FIBA World Cup later this month.

Lowry said his surgically repaired thumb isn't ready to allow him to participate in on-court workouts. He had surgery last month to repair a torn tendon that dogged him during the NBA playoffs, and was hopeful of being on the floor as early as Tuesday when the Americans resumed practice in El Segundo, Calif.

But after meeting with his surgeon on Monday, Lowry apparently realized he wasn't going to be able to play.

"I was hoping to be available in time to help my country in their quest for gold in this upcoming tournament," Lowry wrote on Instagram. "I love playing for USA Basketball but I have to sit this one out and support the team from home."

Lowry's decision means 15 players are still in the running for 12 spots — and one of those 15, Boston guard Marcus Smart, missed much of last week's camp in Las Vegas with a calf injury. It is possible that USA Basketball could add to the player pool before making any final decisions on the World Cup roster, though the Americans were also prepared if Lowry was not cleared to play.

NCAA: Agents don't have to have degree

INDIANAPOLIS — The NCAA backed down Monday on new certification standards and will no longer require a bachelor's degree for a sports agent to represent Division I men's basketball players who declare for the NBA Draft while maintaining college eligibility.

The requirement drew criticism last week when the certification standards were revealed, including a social media blast by NBA star LeBron James. The requirement was quickly dubbed the "Rich Paul Rule" in reference to James' agent, who does not have a college degree.

The NCAA announced it would amend the standards so bachelor's degrees would not be required for agents currently certified and in good standing with the NBA players union. The NCAA had said last week it modeled its rules after those of the National Basketball Players Association.

Baylor's Scott-Grayson dismissed from team

WACO, Texas — Sophomore guard Honesty Scott-Grayson

was dismissed from the Baylor women's basketball program Monday for an unspecified violation of team rules.

Scott Grayson's averaged 2.5 points for the Lady Bears last season in their run to the national championship.

This marks the second consecutive year that Baylor has removed a sophomore guard from the team for violating team rules. The Lady Bears dismissed Alexis Morris last September following Morris' productive freshman season.

Scott-Grayson was part of a five-player freshman class last season that was ranked No. 1 in the country by most recruiting publications.

Seahawks' Wilson joins Sounders ownership

SEATTLE — The Seattle Sounders are adding Seahawks quarterback Russell Wilson and wife Ciara, hip-hop artist Macklemore and Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella to the MLS club's ownership group.

Other investors are also coming aboard while current majority owner Adrian Hanauer is increasing his investment stake in the club. Hollywood producer Joe Roth, who helped bring the MLS to Seattle, is leaving the franchise.

Wilson has been attempting to get into sports ownership. He was previously a partner in an effort to build a new basketball arena in Seattle and has also been part of the project in Portland, Ore., to build a baseball stadium in the hopes of luring an MLB team to the city.

5 Russian weightlifters face doping charges

MOSCOW — Five Russian weightlifters, all of them world-European championship medalists, face doping charges which could herald a new wave of cases across a range of sports.

The International Weightlifting Federation said Tuesday that evidence against the five lifters, including Olympic bronze medalist Ruslan Albegov, comes from new investigations by the World Anti-Doping Agency into widespread drug use in Russian sports.

Albegov is a two-time world champion who won bronze in July in a test event for next year's Olympics.

The others are world champion Tima Turiyeva and double European champions Oleg Chen and David Bedzhanov, as well as Egor Klimonov, who won European championship silver in April.

Ruslan was banned entirely from weightlifting at the 2016 Olympics.

NFL



MARK BLACK/AP

Carolina Panthers running back Cameron Artis-Payne carries the ball against the Bears during a preseason game Thursday in Chicago. The Panthers will hold joint practices with the Buffalo Bills this week before Friday's preseason meeting in Charlotte, N.C.

Talent: College football was already established when NFL came along

FROM BACK PAGE

playing a more entertaining style, the NFL surged in popularity in the middle of the 20th century and turned college football into a means to an end for many players.

Now college teams brag about sending players to the league, even while NCAA officials and college sports leaders try to downplay what has become obvious.

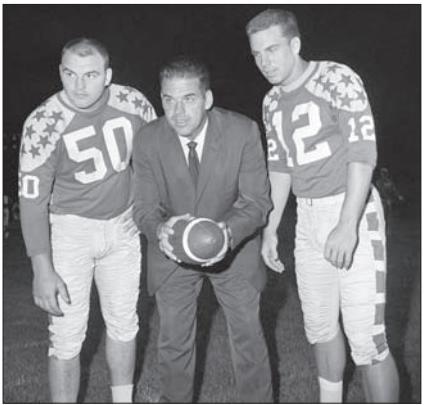
"I definitely think college football is sort of the minor leagues in a way. Like a breeding ground for the NFL," said Eric Winston, who played 10 years in the NFL as an offensive lineman and is currently the president of the players' association.

College football was already entrenched in American culture when the NFL was established in 1920 with most of its teams in small Midwestern towns.

"Baseball was the national pastime, but college football was the greatest sporting spectacle," said Mike O'riard, a Notre Dame graduate and former NFL player who has written several books on the history of football.

When University of Illinois star Red Grange joined the NFL in 1925, a deal scandalously planned while he was still playing in college, he drew scorn from those in college football. Not only was professional football considered barbarian, it was thought to be a lesser version of the sport. Indeed, the NFL champion played a yearly exhibition game in August against a team of college all-stars in Chicago, starting in 1934. The college players won six of the first 17 games and there were two ties.

Grange became one of Ameri-



EDWARD KITCH/AP

Otto Graham, center, coach of the College All Stars football team, is flanked by co-captains Dick Butkus of Illinois, left, and Roger Staubach of Navy as the team worked out under the lights at Soldier Field in Chicago on Aug. 5, 1965.

ca's most famous sports stars, but he was more a phenomena than a trend setter.

"Professional football was out there as an option for former college players who didn't have anything better to do," O'riard said. "It was the Depression and if you didn't get a job right out of college you might play pro football for a couple of years."

After the league reorganized in the early 1930s and moved teams to big cities, it established a college draft. Werwanger was the

first player selected, taken by the Philadelphia Eagles. His rights were later traded to the Chicago Bears. But the team never could meet his salary demands.

Davey O'Brien won the Heisman Trophy in 1938 and was the first winner to play in the NFL. He lasted two years before joining the FBI. That was typical throughout the 1940s and into the '50s. Dick Kazmaier, a running back for Princeton, won the Heisman in 1951 and was drafted by the Bears. He decided to go to

Bills ready for heat

Panthers, soaring temperatures await Buffalo

By STEVE REED
Associated Press

SPARTANBURG, S.C. — Panthers coach Ron Rivera decided to have a little fun with Bills coach Sean McDermott over the weekend, sending a screenshot of the heat index in Spartanburg, S.C., at 110 degrees along with an orange emoji face dripping with sweat.

"A psychological game," Rivera joked of the scorching heat that awaits McDermott and the Bills this week.

The Panthers were scheduled to host the Bills for joint practices Tuesday and Wednesday at Wofford College prior to their preseason game Friday in Charlotte, N.C.

It is a reunion of sorts for players, coaches and front office officials.

When McDermott left his post as Panthers defensive coordinator in 2017 to join the Bills it started a pipeline between Carolina and Buffalo.

A few months later, the Bills hired Panthers assistant general manager Brandon Beane as their GM. A handful of former Carolina players also followed McDermott to Buffalo as free agents. The teams have

also made a few trades, including one involving 2014 first-round draft pick Kelvin Benjamin.

The exodus of former Panthers became so rampant that fans and players alike in the Carolinas referred to the Bills as "Carolina North."

So organizing joint practices only seemed part of the natural evolution for two teams that act like brothers.

"I think it helps going in knowing that we are going to be on the same page with them," Beane said.

Rivera said his close relationship with McDermott will allow them to control the tempo of practice.

"We're going to try and create as much live action as possible," Rivera said. "... We're not looking for the live contact (or tackling). That's one thing we can't afford to have."

Beane said the Bills had other options for joint practices, but chose Carolina partly because they wanted to practice in a hot weather location.

The Bills host their training camp at St. John Fisher College in Pittsford, N.Y., which is traditionally cooler and less humid than Spartanburg.

Harvard business school.

Despite all that, the NFL was gaining traction among working-class fans in places such as New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Cleveland that didn't directly compete with college football. Salaries were growing and a career in football was becoming more appealing. College football viewed the NFL as the opposition and tried to keep it at a distance.

"Initially, when I came into the league in the late '50s and especially with the Cowboys in the '60s there were a lot of schools that did everything but ban you from their campus," said Gil Brandt, the longtime Cowboys executive inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Aug. 3.

In the 1960s, the emergence of the AFL brought competition for players and escalated salaries. While the college game was still mostly run-based, professional football teams were pushing the passing game. Joe Namath threw almost as many passes (340) in his first season with the New York Jets of the AFL as he did in his 30-game career (374) at Alabama.

"Eventually the NFL became so much more fun to watch," Brandt said.

While the NCAA had rules in place that limited how often the top teams could appear on TV, fearing it would be a recruiting advantage and draw fans away from attending games, the NFL wanted as much television exposure as possible.

By the mid-1960s, top college football players were assumed to be heading to the NFL. It was clearly a step up in competition. The last time a college all-star team beat an NFL champion was 1963, a loss Green Bay Packers

coach Vince Lombardi held over his players for years. The game was discontinued in 1976.

In the 1970s and '80s, NFL strategies became more pervasive in college football, most notably in the increased reliance on the pass. As the two versions of the sport became more similar, college players were entering the NFL better prepared to play professional football.

The most significant development in the college-to-NFL pipeline in the 1980s came in 1989, when Sanders decided to jump from Oklahoma State to the NFL after a record-setting junior season in 1988.

The NFL said it was making an exception for Sanders, who was drafted No. 3 overall by the Detroit Lions and went on to a Hall of Fame career, but in reality it permanently opened the door to underclassmen. As NFL salaries soared, getting through college quickly became more desirable.

This year a record 135 players gave up college eligibility to enter the NFL Draft once they were three years removed from high school graduation.

Big-time programs — not just the likes of Alabama, Clemson and Ohio State — want to be seen as a fast track to an NFL payday. They proudly display to recruits the names of former players who have moved on to the NFL on the walls of football facilities, in the pages of media guides and on social media.

Mike Lombardi, a former NFL executive who has worked for Al Davis, Bill Walsh and Bill Belichick, said the message from college coaches is: "You come here, you know we'll develop you into a pro player. It sells that program."

SPORTS



Shining a light

Buckeyes' Landers open about mental health struggles » **College football, Page 29**



NFL AT 100

Talent pipeline

College football a de facto minor league

BY RALPH D. RUSSO
Associated Press

Jay Berwanger won the inaugural Heisman Trophy in 1935 for the University of Chicago and became the No. 1 player taken in the first NFL Draft a few months later. He chose to work at a rubber company and be a part-time coach for his alma mater rather than try to make a living playing football.

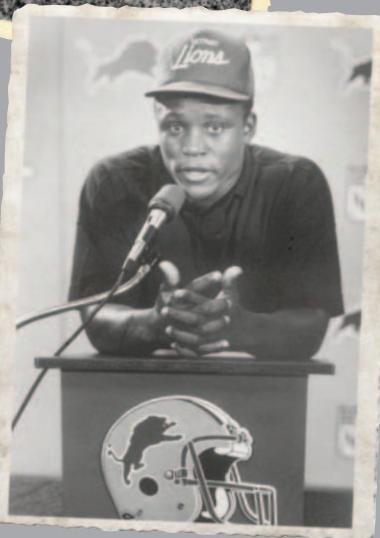
Clockwise from top left: Illinois' Red Grange; Chicago's Jay Berwanger; Oklahoma State's Barry Sanders.

AP photos

More than five decades later, Oklahoma State Heisman Trophy winner Barry Sanders threatened to sue the NFL if it did not allow him to be drafted while he still had college eligibility.

In the early days of the NFL, college football was king and playing professionally was not something most players aspired to do. By planting its flag in large cities, embracing television exposure and

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Torres leads Yanks to doubleheader sweep » **MLB, Page 26**

